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THE

Berks, Bucks & Oxon

Archæological Journal.



Published in connection with the following Societies:—

The Berkshire Archæological Society
The Newbury District Field Club
The Oxford Architectural & Historical Society
The Oxfordshire Archæological Society
The Oxford University Antiquarian Society
The Ladies' Brass-rubbing Society of Oxford.

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EDITED BY

REV. P. H. DITCHFIELD, M.A., F.S.A.

*Rector of Barkham; Fellow of R. Hist. Soc.; Hon. Sec. of
the Berks Archæological Society.*

ASSISTED BY JOHN HAUTENVILLE COPE.

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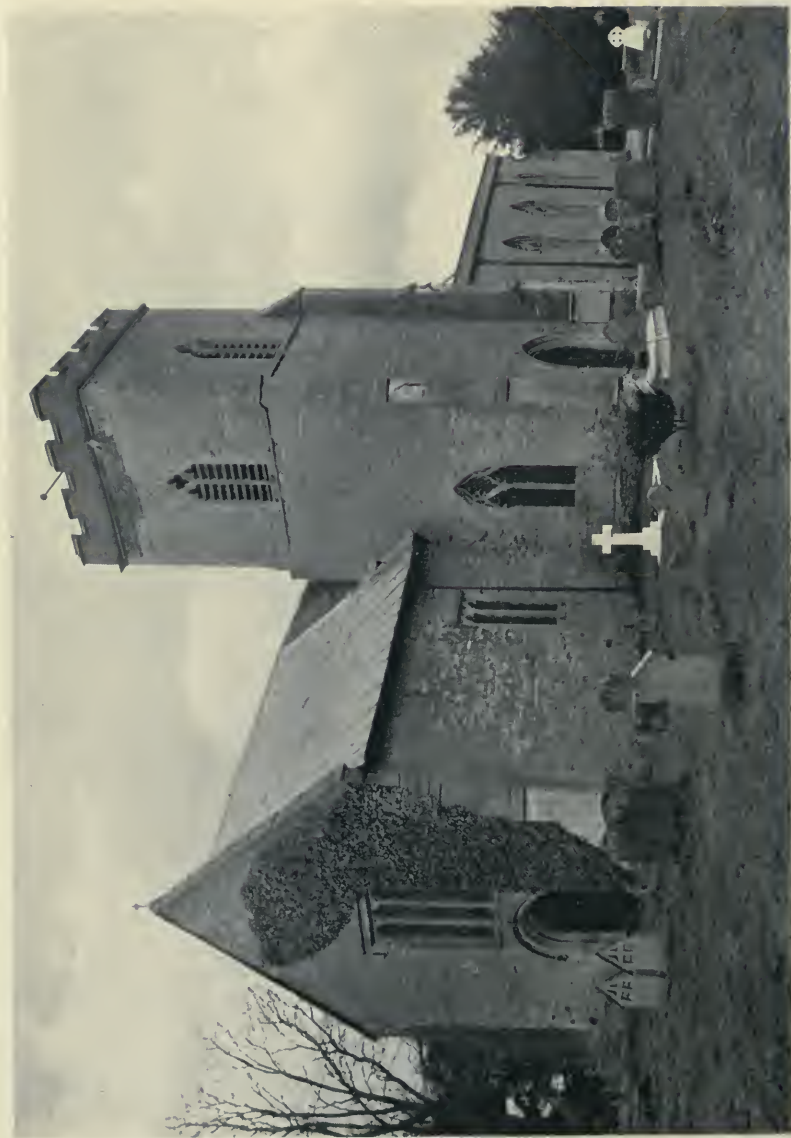
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STEVENTON CHURCH.



WALTON ADAMS, READING.

Fig. 1.

FROM THE SOUTH WEST.



The Berks, Bucks & Oxon Archæological Journal.

WITH this number the Eighteenth Volume of this Journal commences. The Editing of the volumes has been a considerable labour, but the work has been rewarded by the appreciation of many readers, and by the satisfaction that the researches of many scholars and students herein find a permanent record. Without the aid of this Journal much that has been saved from the ravages of Time must have been lost. Eighteen years ago the Editor was invited by Mr. James Parker, F.G.S., to meet the Secretaries of various Archæological Societies in the three Counties at Oxford, to arrange for the production of a Journal to contain the transactions of these various associations. Since then some of the societies have practically ceased to exist. Others have inaugurated their own journals; but the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological Journal still continues its useful mission, though we should like to see that usefulness extended, its circulation increased, and a longer list of correspondents from all parts of the three Counties.

We are grateful to all antiquaries who have contributed to our pages, and especially to Mr. Keyser, F.S.A., President of the Berks Society, for his admirable series of illustrated papers on the Ecclesiastical Architecture of the County, which have for some time formed an important feature of this Journal. We would again solicit the aid of correspondents in various parts of the three Counties, and invite them to send in notes on antiquarian discoveries, on new architectural projects, and on all matters appertaining to the past history of our towns and villages.

The Editor has been fortunate in securing the assistance of Mr. J. Hautenville Cope as Assistant Editor. His experience on the Staff of the Victoria County History will render his help most valuable.

We would remind Subscribers that several subscriptions are in arrears, and we should be obliged if these could be paid without further delay. The names of New Subscribers will be thankfully received, and a copy of the Journal will be sent to anyone who desires to make its acquaintance. It is the Official Journal of the Berks Archæological Society, and all Members are especially invited to become Subscribers.



Notes on the Churches of Steventon, Harwell, Didcot and Hagbourne.

By Charles E. Keyser, M.A., F.S.A.

(Read before the Berks Archæological Society, March 28th, 1912.)

AS most of you are aware it has been my endeavour now for some years past to make more generally known the interesting architectural features which are to be found in the majority of our Berkshire Churches, and with this object in view to select a small group of those which possess details which perhaps have not been sufficiently appreciated, and with the assistance of the excellent series of lantern slides prepared for me as usual by Mr. Marcus Adams, to conduct my audience round the several edifices.

This year I have chosen the Churches of Steventon, Harwell, Didcot and Hagbourne, forming with Blewbury, which was most comprehensively described to our Society only two years ago, a cluster of ancient structures of considerable architectural merit, and all possessing details which will, I trust, merit our careful attention. They all seem to be affected by the same influences which have handed down to us the noble Churches at Cholsey, North Moreton and Long Wittenham, all in this same district, and which I have already brought under the notice of this Society. As usual we can obtain little evidence as to the builders of the Churches, and the history of the parishes and the former residents and owners is of the most meagre description.

Let us now fancy that we are starting at Steventon, about four miles to the south of Abingdon, and that we have been landed in one of the most picturesque villages in the county. It is singular that though it has a station on the Great Western main line, and is also situated on one of the great highways leading from the north through Oxford and Abingdon to Winchester and Southampton, it is but seldom visited by, and little known to, the Berkshire folk, and as far as I can ascertain has not yet been included in any of our Society's excursions. It is hoped, however, that this omission may be shortly remedied, and a visit to this and some of the neighbour-

ing Churches be arranged during the ensuing summer. Very little information is to be gleaned as to the history of the parish, and Lysons, in the Berkshire volume of the *Magna Britannia*, is only able to devote thirteen lines to a description of it. From this we learn that the Manor was granted by Henry I. to the great Abbey of Bec Harlewin in Normandy, who founded here a small cell or alien Priory, which stood to the south of the Church. It is stated that this Priory was dissolved during the wars with France in the reign of Edward III., but it is more probable that the Monks of Bec parted with the Manor, and abandoned the Priory, thereby anticipating the suppression of the alien Priories and sequestration of their property, which took place in the reign of Henry V. Anyhow, the Manor, with the advowson of the Church, was sold to Sir Hugh Calveley, whose trustees conveyed it in 1393 to John, Bishop of Salisbury, and Roger Walden, supposed to be trustees for the Crown, as the Manor was soon afterwards in the hands of the King, who granted it to the Abbot and Convent of Westminster, and it is still held by the Dean and Chapter. The only families of note who are recorded to have resided here are the Wisemans, who came from Suffolk, but had their chief residence in Essex, and the Smalebones, who, according to a visitation of date 1664-1666, were located here at that period.

As has been stated, the village is an exceedingly picturesque one, and can boast of quite a row of ancient half-timbered houses, some of which are said to date back to the 15th century, with high gables, and in two or three instances with curiously painted mantel pieces, apparently of early 17th century date. Another remarkable feature is the Causeway, a raised footpath, commencing at the Church, and continued through the village and out on to the moorland on the east side. It is paved, and for part of its course shaded by an avenue of trees. It is not known when it was first made, but a considerable sum of money has been left for its maintenance, and trustees are regularly appointed to keep it in proper substantial repair.

Let us now return to the Church (fig. 1), which is exceedingly irregular in its ground plan, and the various changes which the fabric has undergone are somewhat difficult to determine. It is built entirely of stone of rather coarse quality, and is dedicated to St. Michael and All Angels, and now consists of a south tower, nave, south aisle, chancel, and south chancel chapel. Some of the stones in the south wall are very large, and it has been suggested that the south aisle

and chapel were the original portions of the Church. If so, considerable alterations have been made here, and at a time subsequent to important additions to the fabric.

The earliest visible portion of the church is the eastern arch of the arcade between the nave and aisle, which is of the Early English period, rather late in the style, or circ 1240. If one may judge by the west window on the north side, the chancel appears to have been built about fifty years later in the early decorated style, and perhaps thirty years later again, the tower, western portion of the aisle, and the south chapel were erected. About the year 1500, a considerable amount of restoration took place, the nave being lengthened, and a new window inserted in the east wall of the chancel (fig. 2). The roofs seem mainly also to belong to this date. The church has been restored. Let us now according to our usual custom commence our survey of the church in the interior of the chancel (fig. 3). The east window is large of five-lights with an embattled transom, and is of late perpendicular style, circ 1500. It has been filled with rather dark and peculiar glass of some merit. In the east wall of the chancel on the south side of the window is a large tabernacle niche (fig. 4), which has been cut away flush with the wall, but part of the underside of the canopy with rich tracery still remains. This also dates from about the year 1500. On the south of the chancel close to the east wall is a long narrow square-headed two-light window of rather nondescript character, but probably of the late perpendicular period. In the usual place in the south wall is the piscina with projecting basin, trefoil headed canopy, and a stone bracket at the back. Adjoining this are two sedilia with projecting seats, ? old, and cinquefoiled ogee headed canopies. There is no central shaft or other impost, but they are enclosed within an oblong frame. Both the piscina and sedilia belong to the perpendicular period. To the west of these is a small doorway with hoodmould and fluting to the arch and jambs of the decorated period, leading to the chapel. To the west of this again is a large wide spanned arch of modern date, opening to the chapel. On the north side of the chancel is a two-light late decorated window square headed within segmental headed containing arch, and further west a three-light window with intersecting mullions, and a chamfered edge to the containing arch of early decorated date. Both these windows have been much renewed. On the floor are the small brass effigies (fig. 5) of a civilian, about 15 inches high, and one wife, about 13½ inches, to the north of him, and the outline of another on his other side.

He is standing on a mound, with hands clasped on his breast, has a plain garment down to the ankles, a belt round the waist and attached to it a rosary and gypciere or purse, with the haft of the anelace or dagger showing behind it. It is singular to find both the gypciere and anelace, as Haines in his *Manual of Monumental Brasses*, part 1, page ccii. states that about the year 1470 some change took place in the civilian costume and "the anelace was superseded by a short rosary and a gypciere or pouch, attached to the girdle," and he gives as an illustration the brass of Geoffrey Kidwelly at the neighbouring church of Little Wittenham, which has been previously described. The lady also has hands clasped on her breast, a kerchief over her head, long gown to her feet, and with close sleeves. We get from Ashmole's notes taken about the end of the 17th century, the following description of the brass as it was in his time :

"On a plate of Brass fixed to a Gravestone in the middle of the Chancel is engraved the Figure of a Man lying between his two Wives and this Inscription :

"Hic jacet Ricardus Do qui obiit v die Mens Febr Anno

"Dominini, MCCCCLXXVI. & Agneta & Johanna Uxores

"Quorum animabus propicietur Deus. Amen."

In English thus :

Here lies Richard who died in the Lord the v day of February in the year of our Lord 1476, and Agnes and Johanna his Wives, on whose souls the Lord have Mercy.

Amen.

Ashmole took the word "Do" to be the shortened form of domino, but it is now alleged that the name of the deceased was Richard Do, and this is probably the case. The chancel roof is very handsome, wagon shaped with open timbers, but has been mainly renewed. The south chapel has a two-light east window with a quatrefoil in the head of the late decorated period, and with the characteristic hood-mould of that date, and there are two similar windows on the south side. Within the quatrefoil of the east window have been collected some fragments of old glass with a pretty oak leaf and acorn pattern. There was formerly more ancient glass here, which it is alleged has been taken away and placed in the chapel of Milton House in the adjoining parish. In two windows there are, in one a crowned female head, the Annunciation and Nativity, in the other the Resurrection, Ascension and Christ in Majesty. It is certainly

surprising that less than sixty years ago the removal of this beautiful glass could have been sanctioned.

In the usual situation in the south wall is a piscina with canopy and trefoiled fringe and well moulded basin of the same date as the windows. The doorway on the north side leading to the chancel has a segmental headed arch on this side. On the floor are two large black marble ledger stones, one with the epitaph and shields on white marble panels, to Dulcibella, first wife of Edmund Wiseman, and daughter of Samuel Dunch of Pusey, who died in 1656, and inscription on the black marble to Edmund Wiseman, who died on All Saints Day, 1689. The other stone (fig. 6) commemorates Edmond Wiseman, younger son to Thomas Wiseman, of Thornham in the County of Suffolk, who was son and heir to Sir John Wiseman, knight, and his wife, Anne, daughter and heiress of William Hawkins, of London. Their effigies are represented in brass, his, 2 feet, hers, 1 foot 10 inches high. He is in armour of the Elizabethan period and standing on a mound. She has a richly brocaded dress. There are two shields in brass above them, one with the Wiseman arms, sable three cronels or coronels argent quartering another coat. There are also two brass plates with long inscriptions which have been reset in the stone upside down. One is in Latin, the other in English, as follows :

Plate I.

Quæ charo fuerat perchara marita marito
Wismanni conjux hoc jacet Anna loco
Quæ matrona fuit frugi pia casta benigna
Digna viro conjux dignior illa deo
Spiritus æthereas per Christum scandit in arces
Jungitur atq deo quæ fuit ante dei.

Plate II.

Here lyeth buried the bodyes of Edmond Wiseman in the Countye of Berk, Esquier, younger sonne of Thomas Wiseman of Thornehame in the Countye of Suffolk Esquier, who was sonne and heire to Sr John Wiseman knighte & Anne his wife one of the Daughters and heires of William Hawkins late of London Esquier, which said Edmond and Anne had Issue foure sonnes & foure daughters. She decessed the xxviith daye of Januarye in the xxviith yere of the raigne of our soveraigne ladye Queene Elizabeth MCCCCCLXXX & foure. The which said Edmond dyed the daye of

Below on another brass plate are figures of four sons and four daughters. This stone was used again to commemorate the death of William Wiseman, with a short inscription recording his decease in 1703. Ashmole informs us that in his time this stone was on a raised monument on the south side of the chancel.

The nave (fig. 7) is three-and-a-half feet wider than the chancel, the north wall being set back to that extent, and as there is no chancel arch this adds to the irregularity of the building. It was apparently re-built and much enlarged, probably lengthened, late in the fifteenth century. In the north wall, near the east end, is a good two-light window with quatrefoil in the head, and a hollow round the containing arch, and there is a similar window to the west of the north doorway, now set within a squareheaded containing arch. The west window is of three lights, rather poor perpendicular, and set within a segmental-headed containing arch. On the north side, to the west of the tower, is a two-light squareheaded window, also set within a segmental containing arch. The roof is very fine wagon shaped with open timbers and large bosses. The nave is separated from the aisle by three arches with a break between each. The eastern arch is Early English, with a chamfered hoodmould resting on a mutilated head on the west side, and with chamfered rib, supported on a low circular column (fig. 8) on the east with undercut abacus and rich conventional foliage on the capital, similar to that we have noted at Long Wittenham and North Moreton, and shall also find at Hagbourne. The arch rests on a plain respond with moulded and chamfered abacus, and stops at the base. On the side towards the aisle (fig. 9) the springer of another Early English arch remains. The next arch is of decorated date with two chamfered orders resting on a plain respond on east side with well-moulded capital and abacus carried along the wall to the next arch. The west respond has a well-carved abacus and row of oak leaves on the capital and terminates on a large corbel bracket. The next arch is the northern arch supporting the tower and now opening from the tower space to the nave. It has a chamfered outer order, then a hollow with pointed member on either side, and the quarter round to the inner order. The abacus, capitals and responds are all nicely moulded. The graduated buttresses on the north side of the tower stand within the nave on either side of this arch. The eastern tower arch opening into the aisle is similar to that on the north, but on the north side the inner order has rested on a head now mainly cut away, though the hair and neck can still be made out. In a hollow of the capital (fig. 10) on the north side is a course of ball flowers, and of that on south a series of roses (fig. 11) connected by a twining stem. The west window of the tower is decorated of two lights, with triangular chamfered hoodmould. On the south side,

eastern bay of the aisle, is a two-light window similar to those in the south chapel.

The font, which stands by the east side of the north tower arch, is of fifteenth century date, octagonal, with a rose within a quatrefoil on each face of the bowl and plain stem. The pews, both in nave and aisle, are interesting, of oak with well carved backs and ends, and some at any rate date from the fifteenth century. On the back of one in the nave is carved I: MART. 1769, and on one in the aisle, R: DL. 1659. The aisle roof is very poor. In the north-east corner of the nave is a fine old Jacobean pulpit with excellent carving, and shields on two of the panels, one charged with a chevron between three lilies, the other a chevron between three fleurs de lis. Near the south door is a large and curious old poors box, with three slits for the coins, supported on a baluster shaft. It has a well-carved front, and the date 1633 twice repeated, and some initials partly concealed by later ironwork.

The south doorway, opening into the tower space, is on the interior side segmental-headed with two chamfered orders. It is of the late decorated period, and on the exterior side (fig. 12) has a well-moulded hoodmould with plain terminations, a chamfered outer, and quarter round to inner, order, to the arch, and down the jambs without imposts to the ground. At the apex is a small head with long ears, and an oak tree springing from it. It may perhaps be a rebus on the name of the builder of this part of the Church. Above the head of the arch is the lower part of a niche for an image of St. Michael, or the Blessed Virgin. The door is panelled, and partly of fifteenth century date. The tower is of the decorated period, with good angle buttresses, the two northern ones, as has already been mentioned, standing within the nave. It is embattled, and has a two-light window with a quatrefoil in the head of the decorated period, on each face of the upper stage. On the west face of the tower is part of the weather moulding of a former lean-to roof, suggesting that an aisle formerly existed, or perhaps may only have been contemplated, to the west of the tower. On the south-east buttress are two stones incised with shallow sundials, probably relics of a former Norman Church. Higher up is an 18th century sundial with a painted head above, now nearly obliterated. The gnomon still remains, and its inclination seems to show that this Church does not follow that strict orientation usually observed in our English Churches. There is a similar sundial on the south-west buttress. The west window on the lower stage has no drip-

stone or hoodmould, but those to the south aisle and chapel all have the hoodmould similar to that in the interior, and characteristic of work of the late decorated period. The south aisle has a plain stone parapet. The roofs are mainly of lead. The south window of the nave has an undercut label. The west doorway is semi-circular headed and of late perpendicular date, with an undercut label having a head at the apex and at each termination. That at the apex seems to have supported a small figure, the lower part of which only now remains. The mouldings of the arch are very good, and are continued without imposts down the jambs. The door has nice panelling, and is coeval with the arch. The window above has the undercut label, similar to the doorway. There is a small and ancient cross on the west gable. There are buttresses at the angles of the nave. The two windows on north of nave have the undercut labels similar to those on west and south. The western of the two, which is squareheaded on the interior side, has the arch corresponding with the eastern one in the exterior wall. The north doorway (fig. 13) seems to have been the principal entrance, and is of good late decorated character. It has the quarter round on the hoodmould which terminates on heads now much worn, and with some mutilated sculpture at the apex. There is a hollow and then the ogee formed by two quarter round mouldings on the arch and jambs. There are two buttresses on the north of the nave. The windows, buttresses, etc., on the north of the chancel have been renewed. The east window has the same label as those in the nave, terminating on the head of a king on the north, and of a lady much renewed on the south. The south-east buttress is old.

To the north of the Church are the steps and base of the old cross, and to the north-west a very fine yew tree.

(To be continued).



Some Notes of Benson or Benzington.

By J. E. Field, M.A.

IN the year 1896 an account of the Primitive Antiquities in the parish of Benson was given in this Journal (II. 44-50, 73-76). The most remarkable was the Medlers Bank, as Dr. Plot tells us that it was called in his day ; and descriptions of it were cited from several old writers ; while its importance among the antiquities of the county was shown from the fact that it corresponded with the famous Danes Ditches at Medmenham at the opposite end of a boundary dyke which crossed from the Upper to the Lower Thames. It may therefore be worth while to supplement the account of it with some additional details which have been gathered from further observation and enquiry. In the first place Boydell's description of it in 1794 (*History of the River Thames*, I. 219) should be added. It states that "West of the Church is a bank and trench of a square form ; the north side still retains some of its original appearance ; to the west and south they are readily traced ; but to the east it requires a minute examination to discern them." From Brewer's account of it in 1813 (*Beauties of England and Wales*, XII. ij. 356) we learn that "three sides of the embankment are now much defaced ; but the part on the north retains considerable boldness." The site is now a quadrangular piece of land, much elongated towards the south-west, containing a meadow and a shrubbery and enclosed on all its sides with a hedge, outside which the roadways completely surround it. The older villagers remember it as waste ground from which gravel was dug, and at the present time all the northern and eastern portion is much below the level of the roads. Hearne, already cited, speaks of bones, spurs and weapons being dug up here. In the *Topographical and Statistical Description of the County of Oxford*, by G. A. Cooke, in the earlier part of the nineteenth century, it is said that "Some few years since, an urn full of Roman coins was found here," but it may be suspected that this is a confusion with the hoard found at Ewelme in 1722, noted in this Journal (iv. 16). A cannon-ball is the only object of which I have been able to get information as having been found here in the days

that are remembered. It appears from Boydell's account that the eastern side of the bank had almost disappeared in his day ; and in 1867 the roadway on this side, passing along the west end of the churchyard, was diverted for a few yards to enlarge the garden of the adjacent house. Of the north side, which retained "considerable boldness" in 1813, and the south side which was "readily traced" in 1794, no recollection survives. An old parishioner who was very observant of such matters can recall nothing of them. There is no doubt that they had been entirely cleared away in the gravel-digging before the enclosure of the ground about 1850. But the same parishioner has a very clear recollection of the western bank. It ran alongside the road-way, dividing this from a piece of waste ground which extends down to the river. Whatever may have been the case on the three other sides, the road-way on the western side ran within the bank, which was thus separated by it from the gravel-digging area and by this means was allowed to survive. But soon afterwards it was cut down to the level of the road, and all that remains of it is the lower part of the outer slope with a quick-set hedge planted along it. A general survey of the site suggests the inference that the road-way from east to west passed across the middle of the camp, for it was shown in the former notes that this is a primitive track, and it points direct to the horse-ferry where (unless the character of the river bank has greatly changed) the ancient ford must have been. Then the long western side of the present enclosure would represent the width of the camp, and all the south-eastern angle must have been cut away when the road was carried across it diagonally, for it is impossible to guess how far the traces of bank extended on the south at the date of Boydell's description. In any case the sole relics of the Medlers Bank now existing are the quadrangular plot of ground which approximately marks its outline, and the bottom part of its western bank below the road-way next the river.

Another detail of Benson topography, though belonging to a later age, is worth recording. The village Pound, a walled enclosure, is remembered as standing on the northern part of the little green at the eastern end of Littleworth, its site being now crossed by the road which in those days made an angle in front of it. And the stocks stood near the western side of the Pound, but there is no recollection of the stocks being used.

In the seventeenth century the village is frequently described as "Benson otherwise Bensington otherwise Bensingborne." So it is

in a fine of 18 James I. cited in Pearman's *Manor of Bensington*, p. 137, and also in deeds of the same period in private hands. Thus the place bore an alternative name from the "burn" or brook, as well as from the "ton" of the Bensingas.

Near the north-west angle of Benson parish we meet with an interesting example of local nomenclature which deserves to be noted. The high road near the river, just before entering the parish of Warborough, crosses a brook which runs from Roke. The spot bears the traditional name of Elm Birch, and the bridge is often called Elm Birch Bridge. In the year 1300 Edmund Earl of Cornwall "granted to William de Bereford and Margaret his wife a fishery in the Thames from Shillingford Bridge to the stream running from Yeldenebrigg between Bensyndon and Shillingford, which fishery was valued at half-a-mark yearly" (Hedges' *History of Wallingford*, i. 351*). In the Inquisition upon the Earl's death the same year it appears to be miswritten "Sildenebrugg" (Ibid, 352). Thus Yelden-brigg (or bridge) has become Elm Birch.

The Manor of Fifield in this parish, of which an account has been given in the Journal (IX. 23-28, with an additional note, p. 86), appears to have been known also by the odd alternative name of "Bensingborne Blank." To cite one instance: In 1740 Elizabeth widow of Thomas Cowslad conveyed to her son Thomas sixty-one acres "in Okeley otherwise Okely Great Ground in Benson alias Bensington alias Bensingborne Blank alias Fifield." It had seemed strange that this very ancient Manor should possess no woodland on the higher ground, but it now appears that Oakley Wood above the Icknield Way and in the south-eastern part of the parish formerly belonged to Fifield; and a map of the eighteenth century shows that the old track-way along the back of Fifield, now ending abruptly in the fields, was then carried on southward, crossing the London Road below Beggarbush Hill and ascending the rise to Oakley Wood. John Blacknall, of Abingdon, purchased the Manor of Fifield in 1623, and had already acquired the Manor of Crowmarsh Battle in the same parish in 1620, and eventually Oakley Wood, which had been bought with the former Manor, was sold with the latter.

At Fifield the "Bensing-burn" has been diverted from its original course, which was evidently on the further side of the road,

*Mr. Hedges' references on this page are confused. This is from Kennett, *Parochial Antiquities*, i. 485, where it is derived from the Boarstal Cartulary.

several yards northward. It now forms an ornamental stream along the north front of Fifield House, and beside it is a handsome fountain, which was erected in 1849. The diversion of the brook was mentioned in the former notes, but no reason for it was suggested. Plainly it was done to form a moat, and the eastern part of this moat, though levelled, is clearly traceable in a shrubbery which runs between the house and the orchard, but the southern and western parts are completely obliterated by the extension of the farm buildings.

At Crowmarsh Battle also there remains a portion of a large and deep moat at the foot of the garden on the west. A spring from the south supplies it with water, and then turns down to the river, following the line of a hollow along the north side of the grounds, which represents the moat in this part. On the east also there is a ditch, but all has been changed here by alterations both of the ditch and of the roadway. On the south the farm buildings have been extended, and all trace of the moat is lost. Crowmarsh Battle was a grange of Battle Abbey. Parts of the house are of some antiquity, and there is a good dovecot of brick dated 1684. The road from north to south at this point has been diverted from time immemorial to pass outside Howbery Park in the parish of Crowmarsh Gifford, but obviously in its primitive course it must have passed directly onward across Crowmarsh Battle field. Here a coin of considerable interest has lately been found. It is a small bronze denarius, or third-brass, of one of the Thirty Tyrants, the usurper Marius, who reigned a short time in Gaul in the time of Gallienus, and was put to death in 267. The obverse, which is clear and perfect, has the head with the legend IMP. C. M. AUR. MARIUS AVG. On the reverse is a defaced figure with the words VICTORIA AVG. just traceable. A Nuremberg token was also found. The Ordnance Map records the discovery of another Roman coin along the line of the same track; also Roman rowels and a British Celt. This last is described by Mr. Hedges (*History of Wallingford*, I. 148) as "a bronze celt, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches long without the annulus." And upon the same line, north of the Swan Inn, a third brass coin of Constantine II. was found in 1882.



Phipps Families of Berkshire.

By Captain H. R. Phipps,

ROYAL ARTILLERY, FEROZEPORE, INDIA.

(1) Of New Windsor. Robert Fyppes found there 1556, dead before 1579, no Will known, his wife Eliz., dr. of Richard ? Archer (by Agnes . . . , widow of . . . Heysey) in 1580 was widow of Thos. Aughton, of New W., gent. Her Will dt. 1603. Their sons were Robert & Frederick Phippes. Former died 1601, leaving a wife Susan : latter died 1601, s.p., was of Dunnyngton, co. Lincoln. They were prob. connected with Edward Vaughan, Esq. & Henry V., Robert Lowe, & Mr. Peter Wentworth. Who were these last ?

John Phippes was of New W. & Clewer 1602.

George P. witnessed Will 1645 of Thos. Browne, poor knight of Windsor.

William P., brasier, died 1726, wife Eliz. died 1753. 6 children, 3 sons Willm. died 1750, Rich., Robert (in 1750 a pewterer of London).

John P., died 1766, of New W., Sunninghill, & Bray. Butcher. Dr., Eliz. Lunn. Grandsons John & Willm. P.

(2) OF READING. John P., Mayor of R., 1564.

Thos. P. of St. Mary's had children Agnes 1621, Thos. 1624.

Thos. P., prob. a candlemaker 1652, on a jury 1641, 1651.

Joseph P. burd. at Tilehurst 1639.

Anne P. marrd. 20. 11. 1645 at St. Mary's Willm. Newbery.

I now come to my family which seems quite distinct from above. FRANCIS PHIPPS of R. had the Beare Inn 1643 (bought from Mr. Payne Cantrell—who was this ?) Imprisoned in Windsor Castle 1643 by Parlt. party, & had to pay Colonel Venn £7 for freedom & bond for £60, to cover which £60 worth of his Wine was seized from his Inn at R. by Commissary Blunder. As shown at the Visitn. of Berks 1664 he was eldest son of George P. of Walton Hall (i.e. EDWALTON) near Nottingham (who marrd. 1606, as "Mr." G. P. at Nottm. Anne dr. of Willm. Elliott of Stoke, & widow of John Power gen. of Edwalton). The old Psh. Registr.

of Edwalton is in fragments, but about 1610 appears signs of the baptism of a "Phi . . ." This George P., gent, with brothers Willm. & Anthony, was son of Robert P. of Nott'm, died 1615 ? by marr, in 1570 with Isabel Brounley at Nott'm. I can find no Wills, but an Admon. 1615 of Robert P., "nuper de Baker" (now unknown), Notts to George P. & in 1616 of George P., of UFFINGTON, co. Lincoln, to widow Ann, who was living 1627. She prob. possessed some property.

When and why did FRANCIS P. come to Reading ? His brother Caleb P., acc. to Visitn. d.s.p., but I find he married, 1634 as a saddler of Nott'm, Ellenor Lambe, & had 6 children before 1652, Edward, Anne, George, Eliz., Joshua, Mary. (I have not yet searched for their deaths), whilst "Caleb son of late George P." was burd. 1675, but ? which George P.

Of Francis P's. sisters Ann & Judith nothing is known. There were very many Ps. of co. Notts, & about 1569 3 Robert Ps. in the Town.

The only clue is Will 1652 of Tanfield Vachell of Reading, "Francis P., formerly my servant," to whom he may have been apprenticed as a boy.

In 1651 Admon. was granted to F.P. of late wife Avis (widow of (1) . . Foster, (2) of Jn. Hicks, vintner, of St. Lawrence, Rg.). But in Visitn. his children are shown as by Anne dr. of Sharpe of Cirencester (Will not found), by Anne who marrd. (2) as second wife Thos. Hilman, Innholder, of Maidenhead, Will pd. 1645, wife's 1655, she refers to "my son Francis P." Who was this Sharpe of Cirencester (who willed £20 to his dr. Anne) ? When & where did Francis P. marry Anne Sharpe ? Prob. at Maidenhead or Bray. She died 1660. F.P. possibly then marrd. (3) Sarah ? widow of Colonel John Jeaffreson of Dullingham, co. Camb., one of the earliest settlers in St. Kitts, W. Indies, who by his first marr. with Mary Parkyns of co. Notts. had a son Christopher, thus half brother by affinity to Francis P's. children, whom he always wrote to as "brothers."

Chancery Proceedings show that F.P. had various lawsuits : in 1652 with Peter Coxe, vintner of Ln. ; 1657 as defendant with Dame Rose Blagrove v. Alice Newbery of Tilehurst ; in 1663 with Abraham Vandenbende, Esq., about Beenham Farm (in this, Thos. Livingston & Constantine Skinner are said to be very good friends & guests to F.P.) in 1663 v. Extrs of Edward Eldridge of Theale, Tilehurst, etc.

In 1649 He was Surveyor of Highways, 1648/52 Member of Vestry, St. Mary's, 1660 Postmaster, Reading.

In 1664 he signed his statement to the Herald, sealing it with the P. arms as used now, with helm and mantlet. His age then 54. He was buried 10.2.1667/8 at St. Mary's. Will PCC., Extrs. John Blagrove Esq., of Arborfield, Thomas Seikes* of Rg., gent, Thos. Bullocke of Binfield, gent. (Did these leave Wills?). PRO COLLINS. 471/34, of 5, 1693 shows in great detail the action of these Extrs.

His children were (a) Francis, eldest son, bapt. 1644, was in 1664 of King's Coll. Cam. I shd. be very glad to know what record there is of him at this College. Crisp's NOTES says he was the F.P. of King's Coll., BA 1666, S.T.B. 1681, Rector of Upton on Severn, married Bridget dr. of James Fleetwood, Bishop of Worcester, but this Rector died 1683 aged 43 (he bore the same arms), leaving all to wife; also our F.P. was perhaps alive 1786, when (Sir) Constantine P. was made a Bencher as 3rd (i.e. surviving?) son of F.P. (senior), late of Rg. But I have a note of Will PCC pd. 1699 of Francis P., of St. Martin's in Fields, meal factor, wife Grace, dr. Grace. Wits. Thos. & John Jemmatt (Reading names), Willm. Beasley:—there was in 1726 a Grace P., wid., of St. Giles, Rg., dr. of Mr. Thos. Jemmatt of Rg., whose dr. Grace marrd. 1726 Rev. Philip Vaughan of Rg. By his father's Will, F.P. junior got property at Burghfield.

(b) George P., bapt. 1645, Got £200 by father's Will. In London 1674. No more known. *Not* the George P. of Ecclesfield, Yorks, as once believed.

(c) James, bapt. 1649, prob. died infant.

(d) Thomas P., bapt. 1651. By father's Will got the Bear Inn, Rg., premises in Castle St., & £20 a year. He was of Staple Inn, gent., died 1671, left widow Eliz., who brought actions v. F.P.'s Exts. & his eldest son on behalf of her son Thos. P., for his inheritance.

(e) Ann, bapt. 1652, burd. 1656.

(f) James P., bapt. 1653, my ancestor. Got £500 by father's Will. Apprenticed 1670 to Mr. Stamper, milliner, of London. (Where would a record of this be found?) Prob. left 1675. Provost Marshal, Antigua 1677, sold 300 acres there 1681. Became a prosperous planter at St. Kitts, Capt. of local regt. Visited

* Thomas Seakes alderman of Reading 1665 (Ed.)

England 1685. Killed 1689 at Siege of St. Kitts by French. Extrs of Will (not found) Col. Pym, & J.P.'s half brother, Christopher Jeaffreson, who wrote him many letters. Children, Col. Francis P. of St. Kitts, Member of Council, & 2 drs. (one Anne brought up by her Uncle Sir Con. P.). (See Jn. Cordy jeaff.'s "Young Squire of 17th Century.").

(g) Mary P., bapt. 1654, marrd. 1673 Rev. Jn. Jackson, Rector of Lee, Kent. She d. 1685.

(h) Ann and Constantine P., twins.

Ann marrd. 1675 Geo. Reeves, of Ln, who deserted her & died in Virginia. She d. 1693, lived with sister Mary at Lee. Admon. to Con. P.

Constantine P., bapt. 1656. At school with James P. 1668. In 1675 went to Ln. to his master, prob. Thos. King, milliner, or Mr. Ireland? Elected 1672 to scholarship, St. John's Coll., Ox., from Reading Grammar School, but resigned. Got £500 by father's Will, and with James P. brought actions v. Extrs. for money. Attended 1684 a "Phipps" dinner in London, given by James P.'s "tokens" from St. Kitts, with his 2 sisters and their husbands, Christ. Jeaffreson, & a "Mr. Thos. Phipps Phipps with his Lady & Kinswoman" whom I cannot place. (The double name seems rare). Agent for St. Kitts 1709, for New England 1701/10, but no relationship to Sir Wm. P., Govnr. of New England, is known, though they used the same arms, and Sir Wm. P.'s widow left Con. P. a "great silver tankard." Bencher 1706 as 3rd (surviving?) son of F.P. of Reading. Lord Chancellor Ireland 1710/14, Knighted 1710, & much more known. Brought up Anne, dr. of James P. Died 1723. Ancestor of Mulgraves. Burd. at White Waltham, where most of his 12 children bapt. and burd. For his descendants see Crisp's Notes, vol. 8.

OTHER PHIPPS OF READING.

John P., of St. Lawrence, 1662.

Mrs. P., wid., burd. at St. Mary's, 1682.

Eliz. P., a prisoner, burd. 1699.

John P., of Rg., 1750/5.

Willm. P., burd. St. Mary's, 1775.

OTHER PHIPPS OF BERKS.

Hugh Phipe, the Thachar's son, of Buryffeld, 1558.

Robert Phippes marrd. 1575 at Wantage Alce Daye.

Alexander Fippes, Curate of Hinton Walrishe 1589/94.

Willm. Phipp, alias Durrance, of Bucklebury, 1618.

Grace dr. of Thos. Phippe, bapt. at Bisham 1652.

Willm. P., Rector of Langford, Berks & Ox., will 1667, burd. there, children Mary, Celina, Anne, Jane, Thos., Robert, Susanna. Lands at Lechlade, Gloucs.

Kinswoman Ann P. wid. of kinsman John P. of Ln. Friends Dr. Walter Hungerford of Buscott, Benj. Cowles of Wallingford.

Thos. P., psh. Comner, Admon. 1681. Not seen.

Anne P., Eaton, Will 1688. Not seen.

Thos. P., Whitley, Admon. 1693. Not seen.

Thos. P., Berks, Admon. P.C.C. 1727. Not seen.

Dinah dr. of Thos. P., burd. 1729 at Binfield.

James P., witness 1750 to Will of Edward Simmons of Woodley, psh. Sonning.

., yeoman, of Winckfield. Will 1755. Wife Eliz. ? Not seen.

John P., Berks, Admon. P.C.C. 1755. Not seen.

Rose P. marrd. 1765 at Wantage Willm. Grist.

1744/5. Feet of Fines. Willm. Critcher AND James P., wife Eliz. : Willm. P., wife Sarah Eliz. : Humphreys, Thos Kennen, wife Mary, Joseph Skinner, wife Esther, Thos. Chandler, wife Ann. House and lands, Winkfield. Not seen.

Another case, ref. appeared in Bucks Archæ. Journal.

Willm. Phipes, wit. Will 1647 of Ann Palmer spr. of Langford, & 1646 of Rich. Turner, yeoman, same place.

The name is spelt in some fifty different ways, from Phypes to fhips, etc., and also (but not in my family) Phip, Fyppe, etc.

I should be glad to correspond with anyone interested in the name, as I know a good deal about Phipps in nearly every County, and of others in Ireland, and abroad, New England, etc.

Who was Col. William P., yeoman of Co. Lincoln, said to have raised a Regiment of Horse for King Charles I. ? I have never found him mentioned. An old letter by a George P. of Ecclesfield says that Sir Con. P's. grandfather lost in money, lands and stocks, £20,000 in King Charles' Wars : that he was with Sir Francis Wortley when he drove Hotham into Hull. "Colonel P. was then taken prisoner to Windsor Castle." The writer points out there were two P. families, of whom Mr. Green, "late Lancaster Herald," knew the family history well : but he himself has certainly confused the P. family of Ecclesfield, Yorks, with mine. I have found no connection.

CHANCERY CASES, P. OF NOTTS & READING.

1626. P. 53/41. Power v. Chaworth. Notts. Got.
1627. P. 39/29. Power v. Phipps. Notts. Got.
- Chan. Proc. Series 2. P. 456/137. Francis P. v. Peter Cox. Got. Reading. 1652.
1657. Collins 170. Newberry v. Blagrove and Francis P. got.
1663. Reynardson 47/65. Francis P. v. Abraham Vanderbende Esq. got.
1663. Whittington 70. Same parties. Bill got. r, not got.
1663. Bridges 44/67. Francis P. v. Boler, Castle, Eldridge. got. Mentions heirs of Sir Peter Vanlore.
1670. Deposns. 770/15. Extrs. of Francis P. (Blagrove, Seikes, Bullocke) v. Jas. Masters, Jn. Hatcher, Thos. Levingston, wife Anna, Jn. Curtice. Refers to a suit brt. by Abra. Vanderbende, Hilary 1664/5, v. F. P. got.
1676. Hamilton 261/73. Eliz. P. wid. v. Blagrove, Extr. of F. P. got. b.
1676. Hamilton 281/76. Eliz. P. wid. v. Francis P., gent (junior), r. of F. P. only got.
1678. Hamilton 540/148. Thos. P., infant, by Eliz. P., mother, v. Blagrove, Seikes, Bullocke, Extrs., r. of Exts. only. got.
1678. Mitford 339/60. Blagrove and Extrs. as above v. Eliz. P., wid., b. got.
1678. Mitford 289/22. r. of Eliz. P. got.
1679. Hamilton 556/164. James and Con. P. v. Francis P., Blagrove and Extrs F. P. b. got.
1680. James & Con. P. v. Blagrove & Extrs. F. P. b. got.
Reyn. 474/123.
1682. 609/85. Christopher v. Blagrove (Jn. Jackson, husb. of Mary P.). got.
1693. Collins 471/34 (or Mitford?). Reeve v. Blagrove & Bullocke. v. good. r. got. (What is Bill to this?).
1693. Bridges 110/53, Chas. Reeves v. Con. P., r. of Con. P., to claim by Reeves for effects of Ann Reeves. Seen.
1694. Bridges 113/20. Blagrove v. Con. P. About Ann Reeves, r. of Con. P. Seen.
1695. Deposns. 560. Reeve v. Blagrove. GEO. P. Mentioned. Got in part only.
- Date not known. Collins ? ? ? Blagrove v. Masters. 5 docts. Not got.

(Whitt. 770. Blagrove v. Livingston. F. P, mentioned. Prob. a mistake for Deposns. 770 above).

In 1685 some lawsuit took place in which both James P. of St. Kitts & Chris. Jeafferson were interested.

Try also Chas. 1, ii. 115/146. Hickman v. P. ? 115/146.

Deposns. Chas. 1. P. 22/10. P. v. P.

B. & A. James 1. P. 25/60. Power v. Skynner.

Bridges 422/?. P. v. Castle brr.

Collins 49/?. P. v. Eldridge. r.

Hamilton 656 (dt. 1711 ?). Bernard (for Barnan).

Chas. 1. c 68/3. Christopher v. Phippe.

Eversley and its Registers.

By Emma Elizabeth Cope.

IT may be said, more or less with truth, that the history of a parish lies in the pages of its parish Register. With Eversley this is not so much a fact as with other parishes, for before the advent of Canon Kingsley the tract of country known as Eversley Village was sparsely populated and scarcely known. It had never produced any celebrity, its one historical episode was the unfortunate accident to the keeper, Peter Hawkins, who was shot by an arrow in Bramshill Park, an accident which cost the Archbishop of Canterbury bitter regret and deprivation of his office for awhile, and all due to ignorance, for had the accident happened now-a-days the poor man would not have bled to death as he did. The sole entry in the Parish Register runs thus, without any comment, among the burials, "Petrus Hawkins. July 25, 1621."

Eversley Register starts from 1559, but it is in reality a later transcript from the older books.

The village is curiously not near the church ; and one wonders why the village street is situated where it is. There is no reason for it such as the proximity of a large house or ancient site.

The surrounding parishes are Finchampstead in Berkshire, which was closely connected in many ways with Eversley ; on the Hampshire side, Yateley, Heckfield and Swallowfield.

In 1842 as a curate of 23 years of age Charles Kingsley came to Eversley, and in his "Life" it is recorded there were "three hamlets each standing on its own little Green." I suppose by this was meant Eversley Cross, Up Green and Bramshill Common. Eversley Street has no green, being along the road and adjacent to the little Blackwater River.

The registers of Eversley Marriages are included in Phillimore's Hampshire Registers. As I before said, the early portion was transcribed according to the Act of Parliament, so that the names may then have suffered some variations, but in the Phillimore Edition, among various errors due to inability to read correctly the old handwriting, a very curious mistake is made, the old capital letter H is written like our small h, but the loop part is long and detached. The copyist read it as Ezitt, whereas the name really was Hill; in old handwriting the double l had a line drawn through the letters, thus Ezitt was read instead of Hill and is so printed.

In 1560, when the Register begins, the Lord of the Manor was Anthony Brown, Viscount Montagu, non-resident, the Clergyman was apparently Thomas Barnes, and between 1582 and 1586 there are four deaths recorded of the Barnes family, three of them being infants. Turning to the baptisms we find Rhoda Barnes 20 April, 1576, Abigall Barnes 1582, as baptised in this parish; but in 1583 the entries of two baptisms, Edith, daughter of William Barnes and Elenor, daughter of Robert Barnes, is followed by Thomas Barnes son of the Parson, shewing that there were three families of Barnes resident in Eversley at this time. There is nothing in the Register to shew who the resident gentry were.

In 1582 Lord Montagu sold Eversley to Deodatus Staverton; at once the name Deodatus strikes one: "God given." It became a very favourite name in Eversley, shewing that the Stavertons (or as they sometimes spell it Stafferton) were popular. The first entry of the name Deodatus is that of Deodatus Helhouse 1564, and from the baptisms of Mabel and Lettice Staverton that same year we know that the Stavertons were living in the parish.

The Staverton Pedigree is given in the Berkshire Visitations of 1623. The family belonged to Warfield, and previously had owned the Manor of Stroudhall in Bray as early as 1426 and were connected with other adjacent parishes. Glancing down the Staverton pedigree the name Deodatus does not appear till the sixth son of Richard and Margaret Staverton of Warfield was so christened, so that it makes one think that he was the direct ancestor of the

Eversley branch. It was probably his son Deodatus Staverton who married at Popham in Hampshire in 1635 Mrs. Amy Hunt.

Altogether there were four Deodatus Stavertons in Eversley, 1613 to 1649. The Manor of Eversley was sold by the Stavertons in 1665. Sir William Cope remarked that the last member of the family buried there was in 1724. There are no monuments to the Stavertons. The last baptism was that of Jarvis Staverton, son of the rector, 1707.

Where the Westwoods lived I do not know, but there were several old houses, the Manor House, Warbrook, Glaston Hill, Brickhill Farm and Moor Place, all more than mere farm houses.

Dr. Wroth was residing in Eversley, probably parish doctor for a large district, he had children christened in Charles II. reign. This name I have come across in Berkshire pedigrees.

The Sellons too were well connected people—the same is misspelt in Mr. Phillimore's Transcript,—and there were yeoman farmer families, the Vans, the Banisters, a branch of the Banisters of Finchampstead, the Wythes or Wyeths, and others.

The Baileys of Eversley were the ancestors of Bailey the celebrated poulterers of Mount Street, London. But long before the Baileys became partners in that business they had been connected with London, as Richard Bailey of Cripplegate lived in Eversley 17th century. I am at present tracing the Bailey pedigree.

It would seem as if there was some connection between Burghfield and Eversley as the same names occur in both parishes.

The oldest names in Eversley are Alexander, Everid, Bayley, Marten, Kelsey, Chaundler, etc. The names which I note only a few times are Havell, Foster, Staveley, Arnold, Blondon, Wylder, Thayer, Richards, Pagett, Brommell, etc.

It is a great pity Family Bibles are gone out of fashion, and that the old English yeoman took so little interest in his forbears, that now the descendants cannot trace back. It is always interesting to collect pedigrees, and see the rise and fall of families, and their migration from country to town and possibly across the seas to find a home. Many from far lands would come back from the Colonies and enjoy a walk round the old parish, once the home of their ancestors, had those ancestors only written out their descent and some account of their native place, the spot they called home. But alas, such written records do not exist, and one can understand how the Colonial treasures any records and looks forward to a European trip.



Wanderings in Buckinghamshire.

By the Rev. A. J. Foster.

(Continued from page 86, Vol. 16.)

ETON COLLEGE CHAPEL.

THE Chapel is 173 feet long, 40 wide, and 90 high. A staircase leads from the ante-chapel direct into the street. This was for the benefit of the parishioners. Round the chapel are Mural paintings, now covered up by wood panelling. They were executed between 1479 and 1487, and have reference to the cultus of the Blessed Virgin. All the windows are filled with modern stained glass. The E. window was erected by subscriptions from the boys in 1847. Two in the ante-chapel are memorials of Etonians who fell in the Crimean War. At the E. end is a Decorated reredos. The screen at the W. end, designed by G. E. Street, R.A., has memorial plates to officers who fell in the Afghan and South African campaigns. The colours in the chapel are those of the Buckinghamshire Regiment, placed there in 1877. On the N. side is a little chantry chapel erected by Provost Lupton at the end of the XVth century. It has his *rebus*, the letters *lup* on a *tun* or cup, in the spandril of the doorway. Within it is the splendid brass of the Provost. It also contains the tomb of Provost Bort. Monuments to remarkable Provosts and others are in the ante-chapel, where there is a statue of Henry VI. by Bacon, R.A., and a monument to Provost Goodall by Weekes, R.A. There is also a recumbent figure of Provost Hawtrey, d. 1862.

There is a black marble slab to the cynical Sir Henry Wootton, scholar, poet, diplomatist, and Provost 1623—1639, with the inscription :—

“Hic jacet hujus sententia primus acutor—

Disputandi pruritus fit ecclesiæ scabies.”

Wootton took Deacon's orders when appointed Provost, but his predecessor Sir Henry Saville, Elizabeth's tutor, had remained a

layman. Sir Henry set up a printing press in the College, from which he produced an edition of the works of St. John Chrysostom.

The great Lord Bacon was a candidate for the post of Provost after the death of Saville in 1622, but James I. handed over the nomination to his favourite the Duke of Buckingham.

Dr. Francis Rous, the Puritan Provost and Speaker of Barebone's Parliament, is also buried here, and so is Richard Allestree (the founder (?) of the Upper School), appointed Provost after the Restoration. It is said that Charles II. had challenged his courtiers to find a man more ugly than himself, and after Allestree had been introduced to him as fulfilling this requirement, he considered that some reward was due to him and gave him the post. Allestree died at Eton 1680.

The beautiful gateway erected by Provost Lupton in the early part of the XVIth century at the E. end of the Chapel, leads into the Green Yard which is surrounded by cloisters. On the W. side is the *Dining Hall*. This has been altered from time to time. The Elizabethan and early Jacobean builders added on to the upper portion of the walls built by Waynflete. The older work may be seen from the exterior on the W. side. The hall has been lately restored and the three old fire-places have been uncovered. The panels bear the arms of former Provosts and others, and above these are portraits of many famous Etonians. The Collegers dine here.

The College Library S. of the hall contains many rare books, and some valuable MS.S., chiefly Oriental.

The Provost's Lodgings also join on to the Green Yard. They contain portraits of many former Provosts, and one of Jane Shore, who interceded for the College with her royal lover.

Other interesting rooms are the *Election Hall* with curious glass in the windows, and the *Election Chamber* with portraits of Henry V., VI., and VII., and of the famous Headmaster Dr. Keate, presented by his pupils, whom, according to tradition, he had flogged so freely.

The *Playing Fields* are to the E. of the College. They form a beautiful park bounded on the S. by the river. Through the centre runs the Chalvey Brook. There is a splendid view of Windsor Castle from these meadows, and from the opposite bank is as equally a magnificent view of the Chapel and College buildings.

The town of Eton, it has, however, never been a market town, consists chiefly of one long street. *The Christopher* is a well known Inn, and old Etonians often put up there. "The Christopher,

Lord ! how great I used to think anybody just landed at the Christopher," begins Horace Walpole in a letter to Montagu, dated from this house.

Barrie's Pool bridge which crosses a small water-course a few yards S. of the chapel marks the boundary of the College domain.

The parish Church (St. John) was originally only a chapel-of-ease, as the College chapel continued to be used by the parishioners. It was first erected in 1769 by William Hetherington, Fellow of Eton, and was rebuilt in 1854. In 1875 it was made a parish church, and ecclesiastical connection between the College and the town came to an end. The E. window is a memorial to the late Prince Consort. The old registers which belonged to the College chapel contains a list of those touched for the King's Evil from 1686—1688.

Notes and Queries

RELATING TO BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON.

Communications are invited upon all subjects of Antiquarian or Architectural interest relating to the three counties. Correspondents are requested to write as plainly as possible, on one side of the paper only, with REPLIES, QUERIES and NOTES on SEPARATE SHEETS, and the name of the writer appended to each communication.

Notes.

THE MYTH OF THE PENT CUCKOO : By the Rev. JOHN EDWARD FIELD, M.A. Subscriber's Price, 7s. 6d. net.—We desire to call attention to this work by an esteemed contributor to this Journal. The Myth appears to embody the gibe of a racial feud between aliens and natives, and there are good grounds for thinking that both this, as it is current in England, and also the designation of the Cuckoo-Pens are to be interpreted in connection with the Saxon invasion, while the name of the Cuckoo has come in merely through a popular corruption which admits of a simple and reasonable explanation. Kindred myths of the pent owl, the impounded crow, and the cooped dabchick, found in isolated instances, are examined side by side with the more widely known story. Of all the tales which the folk-lore of our country has handed down, this Cuckoo-myth is certainly one of the most curious and interesting. And the district of the Cuckoo-Pens is full of associations which have an attractive charm to the tourist

and the holiday-maker, as well as abundant interest to the historian and the antiquary. It is hoped, therefore, that both the general reader and the student may find in this work something that deserves attention. The subject would have been worthy of a technical treatise for the study of antiquarian readers; but it has seemed desirable to treat it in a popular way, and to introduce a variety of illustrative matter, in the hope that this may commend it to the wider circle of readers who care for the old tales and legends of our land and for objects of general interest in its antiquities. Those who are interested in the work are requested to write at once to the Author or to the Publisher, Mr. Elliot Stock, 62, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.

BRASS AT TIDMARSH.—The last number of *The Journal*, p. 104, fig. 42, contains an illustration of a brass to a member of the Leynham family in Tidmarsh Church, which is attributed to Robert Leynham. This is an error, the brass really represents Henry Leynham, Esq., lord of the Manor, who died in 1517. The inscription was in existence in 1595 when Nicholas Charles, the herald, visited both the manor house and the church. He described the brass with its heraldry and gives a transcript of the inscription thus: "Hic jac: Henr: Leynh'm ar: dn's de Tydm'she qui ob: XVIth die mens' Augusti anno d'ni 1517 cuius a'ie, etc." Charles' notes are preserved in the British Museum, Lansdowne MS. 874, fol. 151.—MILL STEPHENSON.

EXTRACT FROM AN OLD DOCUMENT.—"1671. May 16th. Recital of Agreement of Marriage between Zachary Keame of Brightwell, Co. of Berks, and Mary widow of Thomas Wing of Mackney in the said parish; also

Schedule of Inventory of her farm stock, implements, and household goods and chattels. Appraised by William Spooner and John Leaver.

Imprimis fflowre horses		£20
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Seven cows		£20
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Two other horses and a colt, five hogges, a long cart and a dung cart, a plough and set of harness and bells, fowre harrows and a roll, valued at		£10
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fflowre bedsteads, two feather beds, two flock beds, twelve pairs of sheets, two tables, six red cloth chairs, eight joint stools, two pairs of handirons, two pairs of doggs, fire shovels, tongs, sixteen pewter dishes, twelve pottingers, seaven saucers, three brass kettles, two brass pots, three brass skilletts on furnace, a brass basin, a great bible, and divers other goods all valued at		£30
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Total		£80."
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NETTLEBED WINDMILL.—One of the most conspicuous landmarks in the Oxfordshire Chilterns is the Windmill at Nettlebed, of which the impending removal is announced in the local newspapers. It occupies the highest summit in South Oxfordshire, at an elevation of 820 feet. It is said to have been built at first below Watlington, but in a position where it could not catch sufficient wind. The owner therefore moved it to Nettlebed, placing the trunk of it on two timber carriages drawn by sixteen horses. On reaching the top of the hill the carriages broke down and the mill rolled over just at the place where it was to be fixed. This was about 1823 or 1824.—J.E.F.

Since the above note was written this conspicuous landmark has been destroyed by fire.

PREHISTORIC RING COINAGE.—The following is from *The Standard* of October 16th : "A fine specimen of prehistoric ring coinage has been found by an Oxfordshire farmer in a field at Westfield. The coin, which has the general appearance of a curled caterpillar, has a solid gold matrix with regular traverse belts of a silver alloy. Its total weight is 9 dwt. Similar coins, belonging to the end of the Bronze age (500—300 B.C.), figure amongst the collections in the Gold Room of the British Museum, but the present find is the first of its kind to be recorded in the South Midlands."

Queries.

Whitchurch-on-Thames,

Reading, April 8th, 1912.

AN OLD ROAD.—You doubtless know the old Packhorse track, or Bridle way, from near Caversham Church, through The Warren, through Mapledurham, and through Whitchurch, to Goring and Crowmarsh. It is, of course, now, a hard road between Caversham and Whitchurch.

I want to ask you, if you could refer me to the *name, or names of the Authors*, of any old Books, Maps, or descriptions of the district, in which I should be likely to find a clue as to the status, importance, or evidence of the general use of this old road many years ago.

And if so, if you know of any copy of such book, map, etc., available locally, or in the British Museum.

H. J. HOLMES.

Proceedings of Societies.

BERKS ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The Society has during this Winter Session been very much favoured in its lecturers. Miss Swann, who had promised a lecture on Ancient Costumes, was unfortunately prevented by family bereavement from visiting us, but her paper has been postponed until the autumn.

The third meeting of the Winter Session was held at the Abbey Gate, on Thursday, January 18th, when a lecture was given by Mrs. Hantenville Cope, on "Pedigrees and Genealogy." The Society is not often favoured with a lecture delivered by a lady Member. Mrs. Cope is the authoress of a learned work on "How to Decipher Ancient Documents." She has transcribed many Berkshire Registers, and showed herself an authority on the subject of pedigree hunting. Tea was provided after the lecture by the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Fellowes.

The fourth meeting was held at the Abbey Gate, on Friday, February 16th, when a lecture was given by E. Guy Dawber, Esq., on "Fountains," illustrated by lantern slides. Mr. Guy Dawber's name is well known as one of the leading architectural experts of the day, whose numerous books on architectural studies

are valued greatly by all students and lovers of old English buildings. The Society was fortunate in having persuaded him to favour us with a lecture on so attractive a subject, which was illustrated by an admirable series of lantern slides. Tea was provided by the kind invitation of Miss Hissey and Miss Cooper-Smith.

The fifth meeting was held on Friday, March 8th, when a lecture was given by Edward Warren, Esq., on "Collegiate Architecture," illustrated by lantern slides. We were again favoured with a lecture by a distinguished London Architect on the noble buildings of Colleges, both at home and abroad. The Society was most fortunate in having secured Mr. Warren as a lecturer on so attractive a subject, and the interest of his lecture was greatly enhanced by an admirable series of views of Collegiate buildings. Tea was provided by the kind invitation of Sir Edward Barry, Bart., and Lady Barry.

The sixth meeting was held on Thursday, March 28th, when a lecture was given by Charles E. Keyser, Esq., President, on "Notes on the Architecture of the Churches of Steventon, Harwell, Didcot and Hagbourne," illustrated by lantern slides. The President's lectures on Berkshire Churches have become one of the most attractive features of the Society's programme. The four Churches which he selected for description this year all possess architectural details of interest and beauty, and the lecture was illustrated by a large number of lantern slides specially taken by Mr. Marcus Adams, which added much to the enjoyment and interest of the lecture. The gratitude of the Society is certainly due to its President for his careful researches and study of the architecture of the County and for the wealth of illustrations which he provides; and the appreciation of the Members was shown by a large attendance at the lecture. Tea was provided by the kind invitation of the President and Mrs. Keyser.

The seventh meeting will be held on April 19th, which will be the Annual Meeting, when the Officers will be elected and the Reports read. A lecture that promises to be most interesting will be given by Mervyn Macartney, Esq., F.R.S., on "Old Gardens," illustrated by lantern slides. Mrs. Williams will be the hostess at the tea after the lecture.

NEWBURY AND DISTRICT FIELD CLUB.—EXCURSION TO TOM HUGHES' COUNTRY.—UFFINGTON, KINGSTON LISLE, WHITE HORSE HILL, WAYLEN SMITH'S CAVE, DONNINGTON PRIORY.—(*Account continued*).—Mr. Money's notes stated that the beautiful church of Uffington, founded by Faritius, Abbot of Abingdon, 1105, which rises picturesquely against the chalk downs, is a large cruciform building, chiefly of the earliest pointed architecture, with an octagonal central lantern tower. The chancel has three windows with detached shafts, having bands and foliated caps; under these are three small circular openings with good mouldings; the side windows are also lancets with detached shafts, except one which is decorated; the sedilia and piscina are fine examples of early English; the tower arches are fine and lofty Early English. On the east side of the north transept are two very remarkable recesses for altars, with high pitched gabled roofs and three windows in each of a peculiar form, as if the heads of the windows were cut off by the slope of the roof, but evidently all original work; this example is believed to be unique. The south transept is nearly the same as the north, but has only one altar-recess. The south doorway has a fine Early English porch, with a groined vault, and room over it, in which was formerly an original fireplace and chimney. On the exterior of the church will be noticed

twelve circular mouldings, each of which originally contained a metal consecration cross. These crosses are highly interesting, and date from the foundation of the church it being according to the ancient ritual for twelve crosses to be made by the bishop at the dedication of a church, symbolical of the twelve Apostles, the teachers of the Gentiles, or the light of the world. These crosses were afterwards cut in stone, or distinguished by colour. Very few examples of original metal crosses remain. Referring to the foregoing notes, which had been prepared by Mr. Money, Mr. Keyser said he was fully in accord with the same, and they gave a good impression of this interesting structure. Mr. Keyser also said that Ashmole's "*Antiquities of Berkshire*" were published by Richard Rawlinson, the Oxford antiquary, many years after Ashmole's death, the epitaphs being falsely printed. What Ashmole did was done very carefully, as appears from the original in the Ashmolean Museum. In the nave, the heads of the west triplet, and of the north-east and south-east windows have been cut off by a flat lead roof which was put on in 1678, when an inscription states the church "long ruined" was repaired by Richard Saunders and Thomas Lockey, Churchwardens. If we may judge from a contemporary record, the vandalism of these rustic restorers in cutting off the heads of the original lancets did not go unpunished, for after the spoliation was done they were both excommunicated by the Vicar, no doubt with a view to stay their hands. This good Vicar deserves a memorial in the church where the churchwarden architects record their achievement. On the south of the church is a small picturesque old building given by John Saunders, 1617, as a school, and referred to in "*Tom Brown's Schooldays*." It is now used as a reading room. The pretty and trim village of Kingston Lisle is $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles south-east of Uffington. The little church was originally Norman, of which style there only remain a plain north door with Decorated ironwork, a restored window, and the cylindrical font. The chancel shows mostly late Decorated work, i.e., a reticulated east window with a foliated niche on either side, two other windows, foliated piscina, and sill-sedile. The chancel arch is new; nave windows late and bad. The square wooden belfry has a small shingled spire. There is some good modern woodwork. An extremely interesting sanctuary ring-knocker, or hagoday, remains on the entrance doorway of this church, affording the right of asylum to accused persons fleeing from justice. So soon as the fugitive laid hold on the ring or hagoday he was safe, and provided with food for thirty days, and might go certain paces from the church with immunity. It was but a short drive to the Blowing stone or King Alfred's Bugle. This singular natural production is composed of the substance here called Sarsen stone. It is pierced with holes on each side, of which seven are in front, three at the top and several behind. The opening from which it is blown is at the top. The sound issues from the side, near the top of the stone, and can be heard in fine weather at Faringdon Clump, six miles distant. To quote a stanza or two from a poetical description of the antiquities round Lambourn, under the title of "*A day on the Downs*" :

"This stone, which utter'd many a blast
In silence lay for ages past ;
By man unheard, by man unseen,
Tradition said it once had been,
And that for miles its loud alarms
Were heard when Alfred flew to arms ;
And this tradition has it still,
The stone was on the White Horse Hill.
From sire to son the Blow Stone tale
Thus circles round the White Horse Vale."

White Horse Hill is well-known for its panoramic view of the vale below; but its celebrity is chiefly owing to the rude figures of a white horse formed on the north-west side of the hill, and being 374 feet in length, is visible from a distance of over 15 miles, when the afternoon sun is shining upon it. Its formation is ascribed to King Alfred as a memento of his celebrated victory over the Danes at *Æscedune*, but this may possibly be regarded more as a popular legend than an historical and ascertained fact. It is almost certainly one thousand years earlier. The dimensions occupy about an acre of ground, with white chalk between two and three feet deep and ten broad. The head, neck, body and tail, are composed of one line varying in width; and one line or trench has also been made for each of the legs. At the summit of the hill, which is 893 ft. above the level of the sea, is the large oval camp known as Uffington Castle, 700 ft. in diameter from E. to W., and 500 from N. to S. The view from it is very fine, embracing objects in eight different counties. Below the White Horse is a curious deep descent called "The Manger," into one side of which the hill falls with a series of sweeping curves known as "The Giants' Stairs." To the right is a high mound called "Dragon Hill," where according to local folk-lore, St. George killed the dragon, "whose blood made pool on the top, and ran down the steps on the other side," where the grass has never grown since. The story is told by Job Cork, the Uffington shepherd-poet;

"Ah! zur, I can remember well
The stories the old folks do tell—
Upon this hill which here is seen,
Many a battle there have been
If it is true as I heard say,
King Gaarge did here the dragon slay,
And down below on yonder hill
They buried him as I've heard tell."

Leaving our direct subject for a moment, and being somewhat in the anecdotal vein, we may here record that we recently met with an old Vale shepherd, who was present at the famous Scouring of the White Horse in 1843. It was, he said, on the 27th of September that the "Revel" took place, and there were from 10,000 to 15,000 persons present. The sports commenced with a foot race, for which fourteen entered. This was followed by a race down the steep face of the hill after a painted wheel, for a good Vale Cheese. The falls were numerous and terrible, some of the men rolling more than fifty yards. Then came the race after the Berkshire pig. The grunter who was started from a cart, went off in gallant style, with eighteen men in pursuit, amid the cheers of thousands and thousands, and faced the open country for about a mile, when he was run into and secured after a most exciting race. No ladies could be induced to enter the race for the holland unmentionables. There were capital heats in sacks, and a famous jingling match—one man being stripped to the waist, round which a bell was tied, endeavouring to elude some dozen blindfolded men who ran after the bell. In the attempt to catch the bell-man the competitors threw each other over in a very amusing way, causing great merriment. The man who carried the bell for fifteen minutes gained the prize. But the piece de resistance was the wrestling, such as never before had been seen in this part of Berkshire. Three men came down from London, professed hands, who threw the countrymen, old good ones at the sport, one after another in quick succession—great powerful men who had carried off many prizes in the county—were tossed in the neatest manner by the London professionals. The backword play was very spirited and good—Wilts against Somerset—the Purton men being trium-

phant, the veteran Simon Stone, having had his head broken, unluckily, in the first bout. There were lots of shows, also a theatre, and no end of other diversions.

The steep slopes leading to White Horse Hill, having been successfully negotiated, a survey was made of the country which spread out before the enchanted vision, though the haze which hung around was not helpful to an extended view. Interest next centred in Uffington Castle, where the luncheon was laid out upon tables in the open. The company then walked down to the Ridgway, where carriages were in readiness, and proceeded to Waylen Smith's Cave, which was described by Mr. Belcher in a paper printed in the last number of the *Journal*. In reply to an inquiry as to how such large stones could have been brought together from a distance, and how such enormous weights could have been lifted up, Mr. Money said the first question was answered by ropes and rollers, and the mural scriptures of Nineveh show us what can be done by such simple machinery. We there see the whole picture how these colossal blocks of stone were moved from the quarry on to the place where they were wanted. As to the second question, by accumulated earth an easy ascent or inclined plane was formed at the top, and by means of levers the stones were raised to the summit, and the earth would then be dug away, leaving the structure complete.

The drive was continued to Lambourn whence the Valley train conveyed the party to Speen station. Here carriages were in readiness to convey them to Donnington Priory, where the guests were received by the Hon. and Mrs. Gathorne Hardy. A little time was spent in inspecting the objects of interest in the drawing-room, including the fine carved overmantels to which reference is made in Mr. Hardy's already printed paper. Also the volumes of the *Life of the first Earl of Cranbrook*, the father of Mr. Gathorne Hardy, who was the author of these Memorials. Bound up in these volumes are comprised the original letters and documents referred to on these pages, and form an altogether reliable history of one of the most eventful periods of the reign of Queen Victoria. Mr. Money was able to explain that the modern parts of the carved oak frontispieces over the fireplaces were the work of John Hughes, who, as Miss Mitford remarks "was also an artist in wood, embroidering his oaken wainscots with every quirk and quiddity that comes into his head from a comic masque to an old English motto." Afterwards a paper was read by Mr. Gathorne Hardy on the Author of "*Tom Brown's Schooldays*" and his connection with the Priory. This paper has already been published in the *Journal*. The party was then invited to tea on the lawn, and next strolled along the banks of the Lambourn stream which runs through the grounds. Before leaving, acknowledgment was made by Mr. Keyser of the appreciated hospitality of the President and Mrs. Gathorne Hardy. The excursion proved a great success and reflects much credit on the organiser, Mr. Watts, Hon. Secretary of the Field Club.



Review.

ERLEIGH COURT AND ITS OWNERS: by ERNEST W. DORMER.
(J. A. Poynder, Reading).

We welcome any additions to the History of our Country, for every village or house has a history of its own worth recording, which if not written down is soon forgotten. The latest contribution is Mr. E. Dormer's "Erleigh Court and its Owners," an extremely well illustrated work, written in a pleasing style. The illustrations are of exceptional merit, and we note with interest that the production is also local, bearing on its title page the well-known name of Mr. J. A. Poynder. Not the least interesting chapter is the one dealing with the history of the Court Chapel of St. Bartholomew's, Earleigh, which together with other chapels at Arborfield, Sindlesham, Ruscombe, Wokingham, Hurst and Sandhurst, were dependent on the Mother Church of Sonning. From this we learn the immense size of a medieval parish, also these chapels were the parents of the present parishes of the above names. Also of interest is the chapters dealing with the various owners of the Court, but we wish that it might have been possible to state how the property descended from the Erleghs to the family of Fettiplace. Perhaps a search amongst the sixteenth century wills at Somerset House may throw some light on such descent, or the Feet of Fines and Inquisition Post Mortem at the Record Office might again prove of assistance. These are such important sources of information that no one who is writing on the descent of landed property should leave them untouched. The work shows that a great deal of painstaking research has been undertaken by Mr. Dormer to obtain the information which he has so ably put together, but the references might have been more explicit. Thus, on page 15, are several references to the Calendar of Patent and Close Rolls; it would have been well if the dates covered by the volume in the page were given. Mr. Dormer would do well to copy the very explicit references given in the Victoria County Histories as a model, because we hope to have more work from his pen.

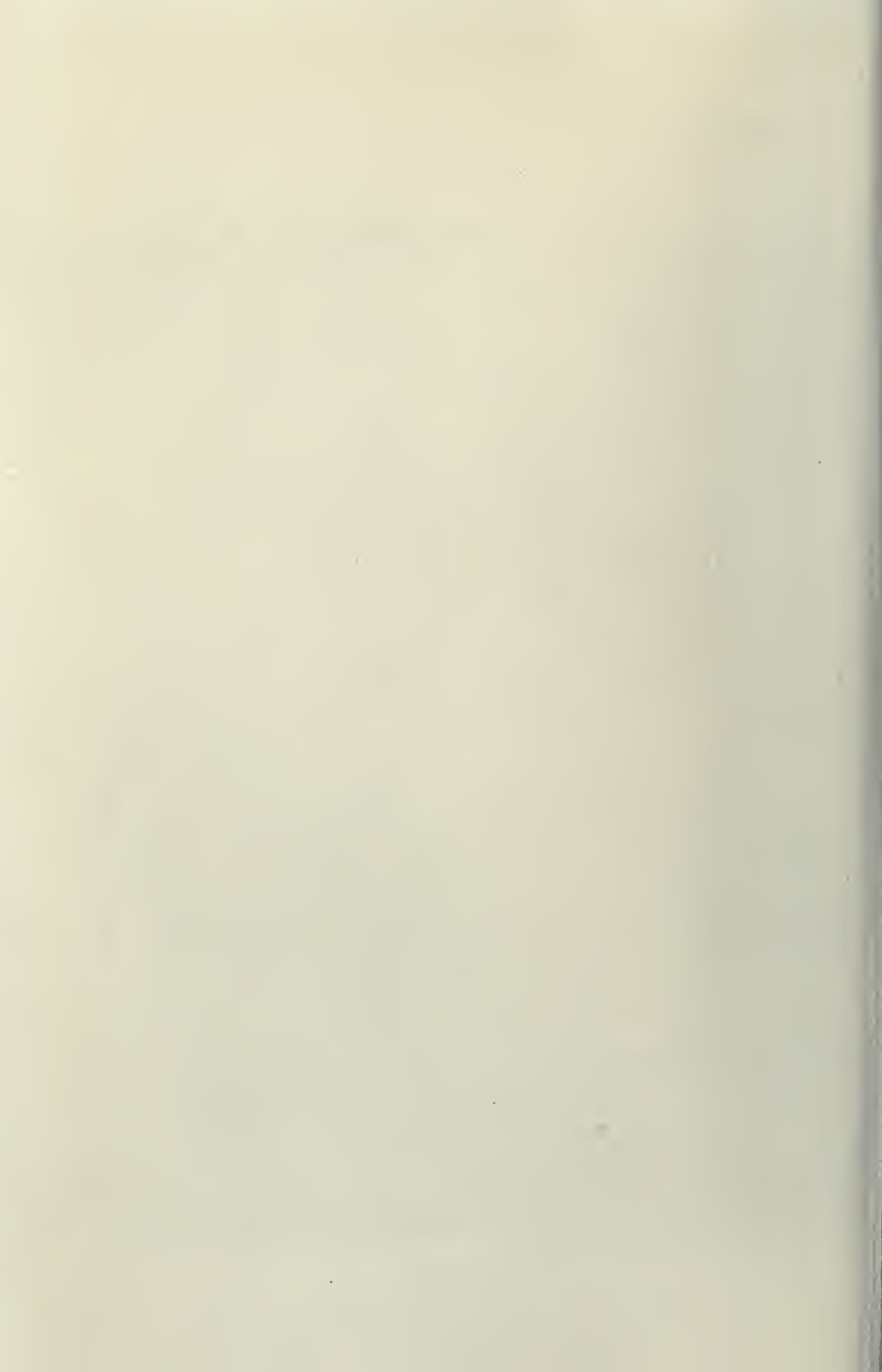




WALTUN ALIAMS, HEADING.

Fig. 2.

FROM THE NORTH EAST.

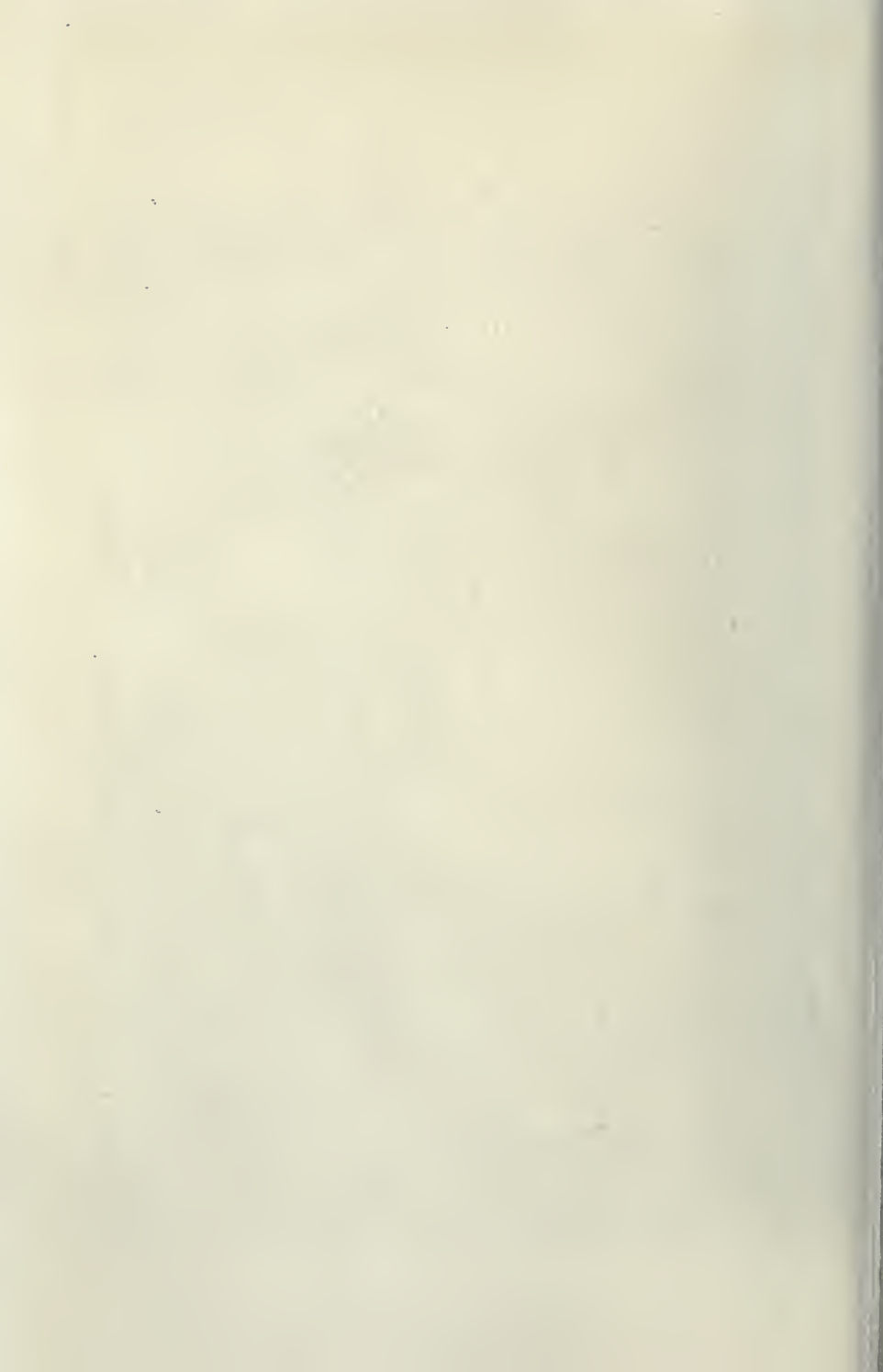


STEVENTON CHURCH.



INTERIOR LOOKING EAST.

Fig. 3.



STEVENTON CHURCH.



Fig. 4.

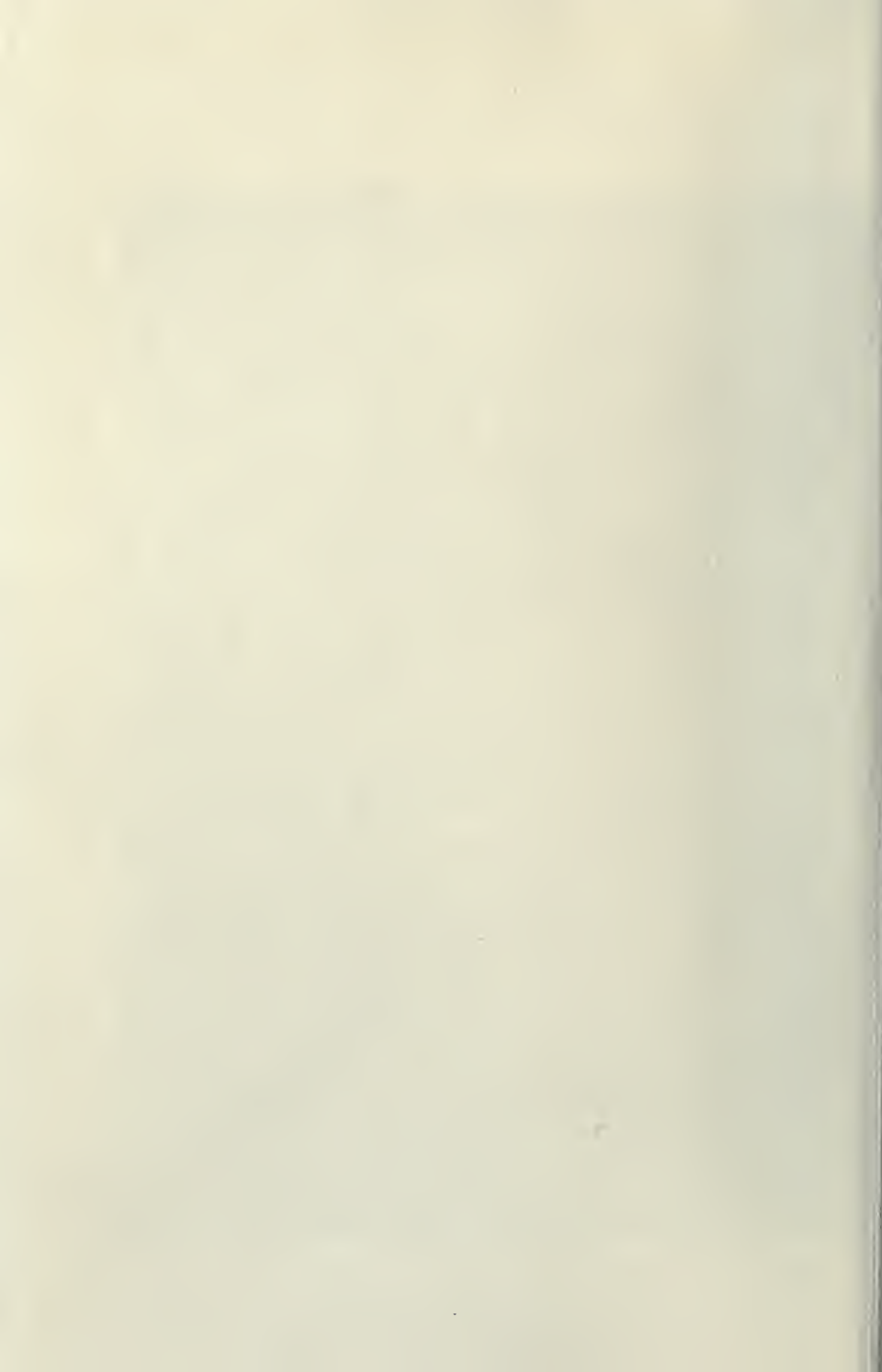
SOUTH EAST CORNER OF CHANCEL.





Fig. 5.

BRASS EFFIGIES OF RICHARD DO AND LADY.



STEVENTON CHURCH.



WALTON ADAMS, READING.

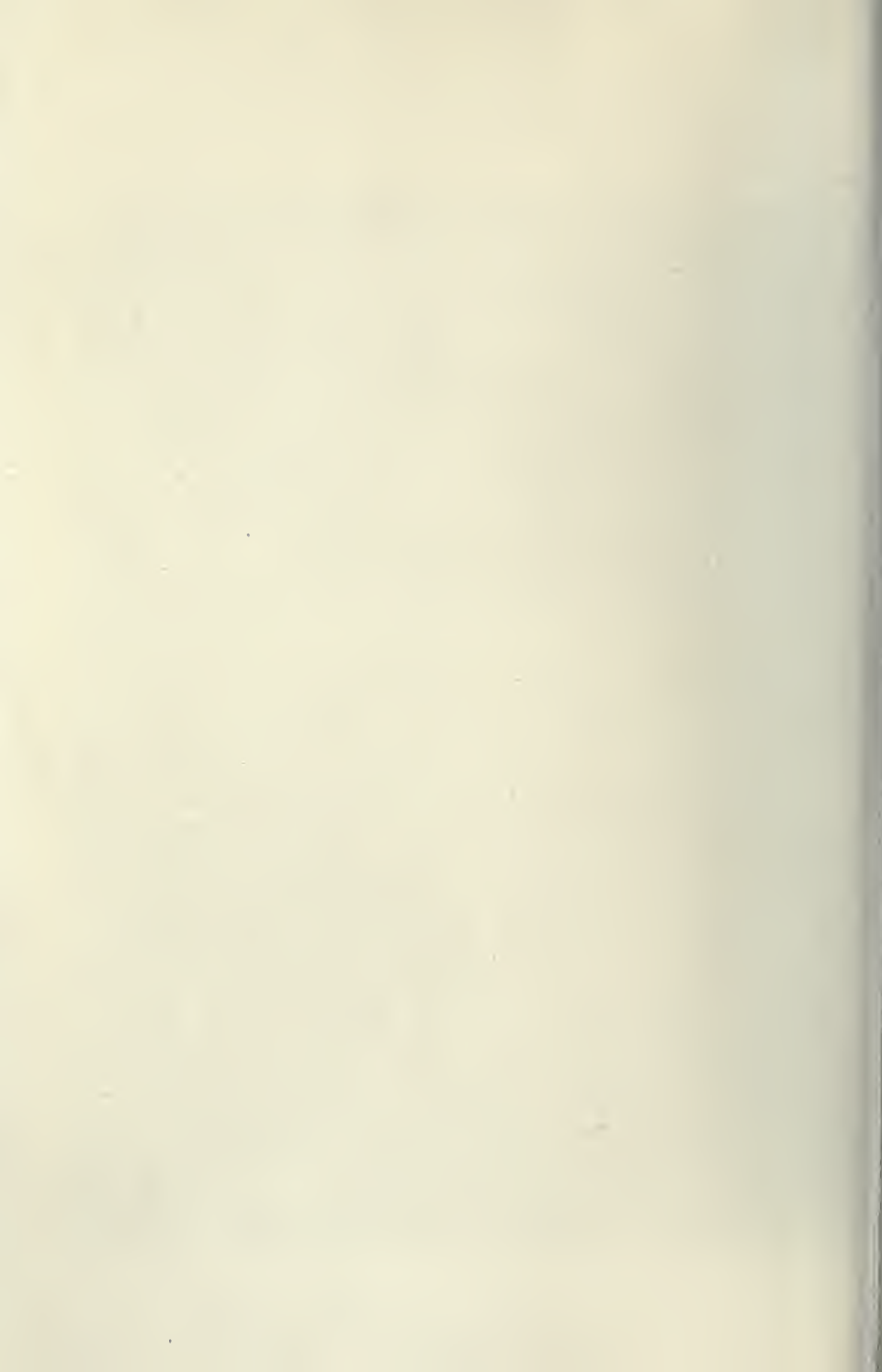
Fig. 6. MONUMENTAL BRASS TO EDMOND AND ANNE WISEMAN.





Fig. 7.

NAVE LOOKING WEST.



STEVENTON CHURCH.



Fig. 8.

EAST COLUMN OF NAVE ARCADE.

STEVENTON CHURCH.



Fig. 9.

SOUTH AISLE.

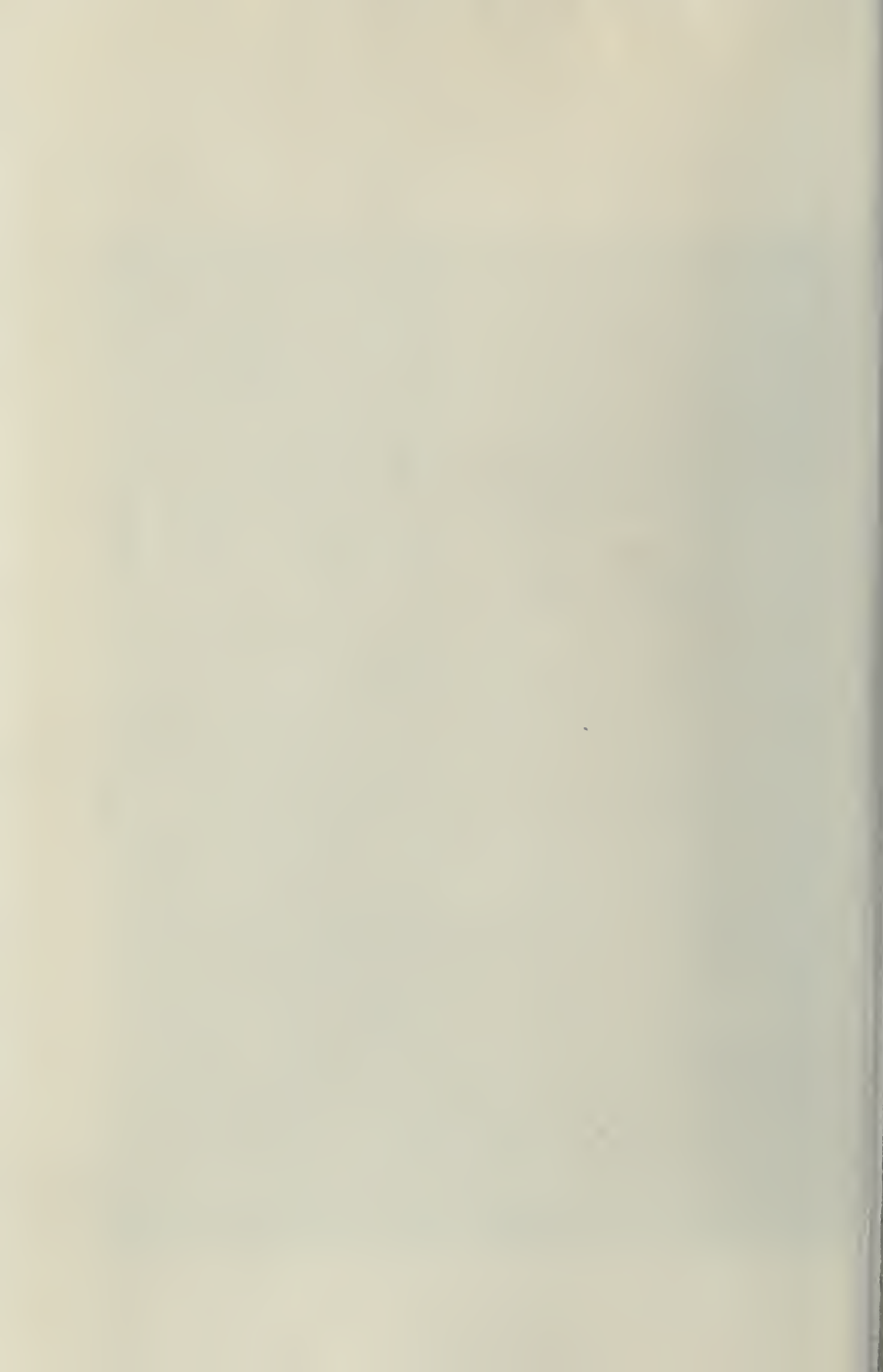
STEVENTON CHURCH.



WALTON ADAMS READING.

Fig. 10.

PIERS OF TOWER ARCHES.



STEVENTON CHURCH.

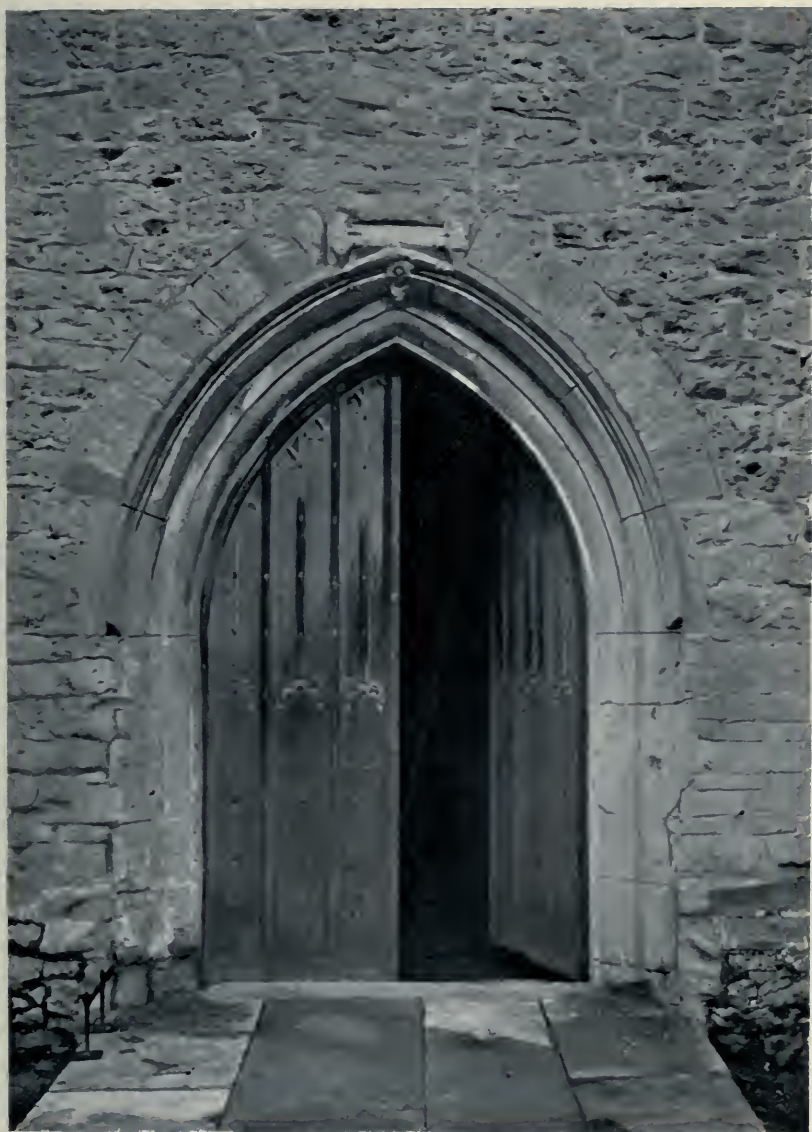


Fig. 12.

SOUTH DOORWAY.

STEVENTON CHURCH.



Fig. 13.

NORTH DOORWAY AND CROSS.



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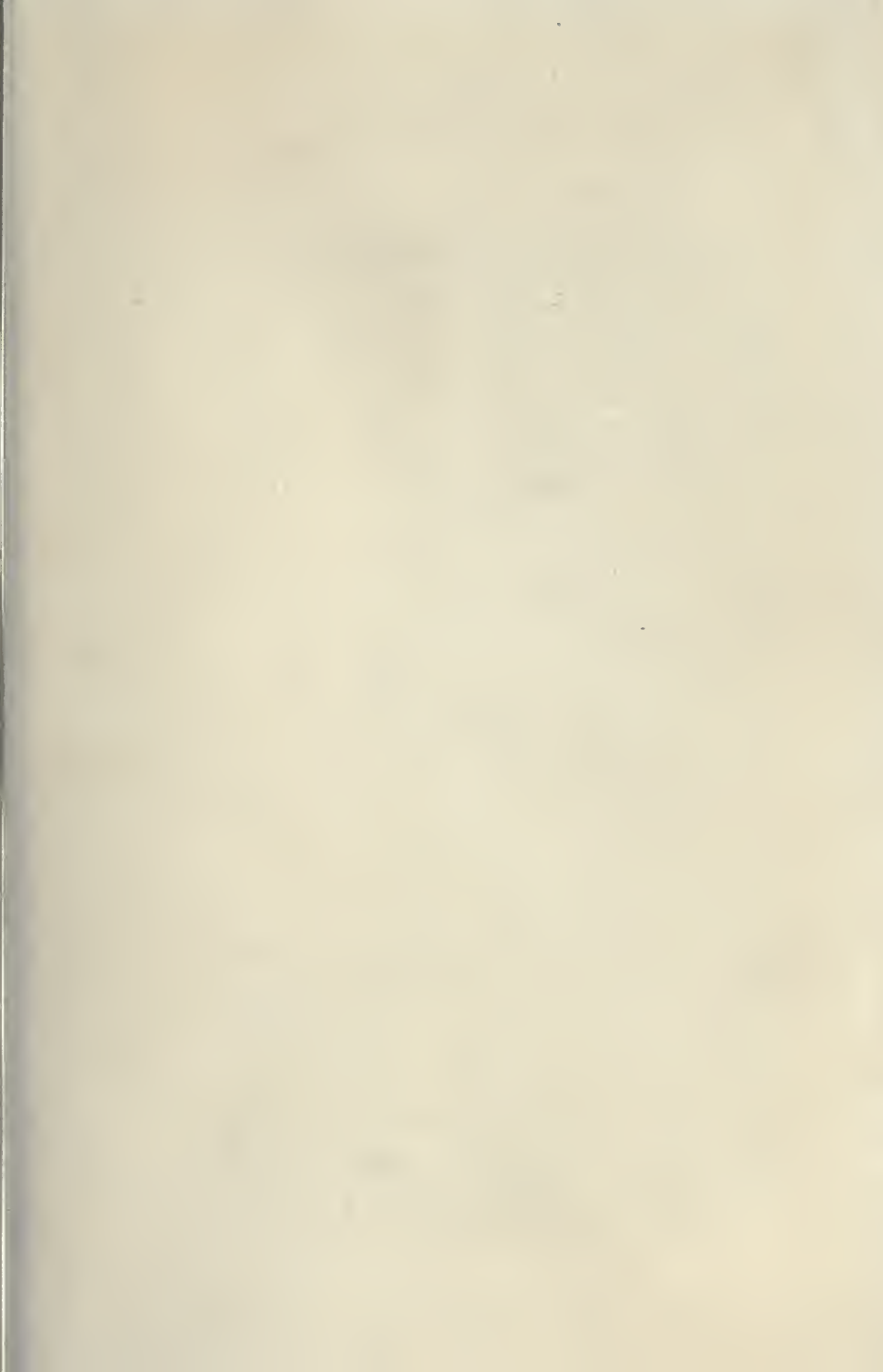
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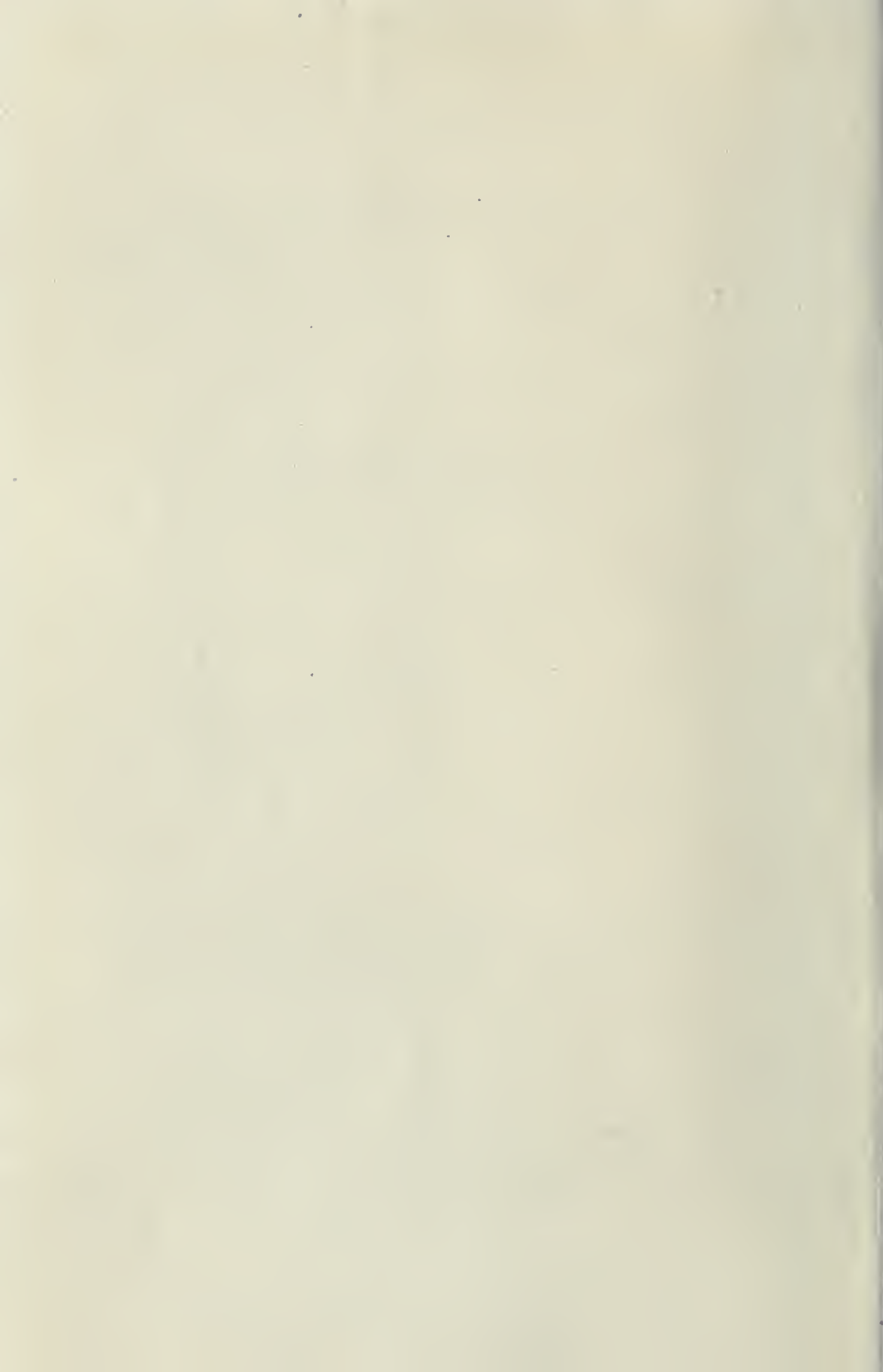
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HARWELL CHURCH.



Fig. 14.

FROM THE SOUTH.





The Berks, Bucks & Oxon Archæological Journal.

Notes on the Churches of Stebenton, Harwell, Didcot and Hagbourne.

By Charles E. Keyser, M.A., F.S.A.

(Read before the Berks Archæological Society, March 28th, 1912.)

(Continued from page 9.)

A DRIVE by a somewhat circuitous route of rather over two miles will bring us to Harwell, a large and picturesque village with numerous old houses, but perhaps fortunately possessing few ancient records of historical interest. The Manor, with which the advowson of the Church seemed always to have been associated, belonged in the 13th century to Richard, Earl of Cornwall, commonly known as the King of the Romans. His son, Edmund, died seized of it in 1299, but Edward III granted it to Sir Nicholas De la Beche, from whom, through many changes, it descended to the Chetwodes. Mrs. Webster is now the Patron of the Living. The great tithes of Harwell, which were given by Edward the Black Prince to the College of St. Nicholas in Wallingford Castle, belonged some years ago to the family of Jennings, who sold them to Sir Jemmet Raymond. They have since passed with the Manor. A lady of the Jennings family in 1715 founded and endowed almshouses here and Mrs. Anthony Loder gave an estate which produces £32 per annum for the education of twelve poor children.

Though the parish thus has so few accessible records relating to its ancient history, it can boast the possession of one of the finest and most interesting Churches in the County (fig. 14), but as usual we have no evidence, except from the architectural details of the fabric, as to

when or by whom the various portions of the edifice were erected. There is a short account of the Church written by the then Vicar, the Rev. Henry Chetwode, and with an illustration, in a rather rare work entitled "Sketches of Churches" compiled by W. E. Relton and published in 1843. (This same volume contains a brief account of the Churches of Childrey, East Hendred, Sparsholt, Uffington and Wantage, and of several more in the Counties of Gloucester, Oxford, Worcester and Wiltshire). Harwell Church is dedicated to St. Matthew, is built of stone, and has a western tower, nave, aisles, transepts and Chancel (fig. 15). It is mainly of early 13th century date, though it is not very easy to interpret the several alterations to the original structure, which have resulted in the present condition of the Church. The transepts with small and plain lancets may date from the end of the 12th century, and may have been a part of the earlier Norman Church, of which the font is now the only relic. The nave arcades are also of transitional Norman date, probably not earlier than 1200. The west tower is a good, but advanced specimen of the Early English style. During the Decorated period the Chancel was rebuilt, and other restorations were carried out, especially in the north aisle. Very little was done after this date, the battlements and top of the turret of the tower and a few minor alterations only exhibiting the characteristics of the perpendicular period. The Church was restored in 1867.

Let us now take up our position in the interior of the Chancel (fig. 16), which is a most interesting example of decorated work, and possesses many unusual features of that style. The east window is of five lights of very elegant and uncommon design. The mullions on either side of the central light are carried right through to the head of the arch and enclose a trefoil headed lancet and quatrefoil above. The tracery and cusping of the side lights is very good. Within the quatrefoil is a shield in old glass, vert six eagles displayed or, the arms of Piers Gaveston, created Earl of Cornwall, the favourite of Edward II. It is said that there was more old glass in this window, which has got into private hands. There is a containing arch with the quarter round moulding carried round the head and down the jambs of the window.

On either side of the east window is a large bracket supported on a head. On north and south of Chancel are three two light decorated windows, the sill of the west window on each side being brought down to a lower level than the other two, to provide a low side window. Some of the decorative glass with various designs

and rich ruby colouring seems to be old. A stringcourse runs right round forming a base mould to the windows. The side windows all have containing arches with a roll enriched with a fillet band, dying into the wall. On the south side is the piscina with two trefoil headed arches resting on a central shaft with foliage on the capital and with roll on the arches carried down the jambs on the east and west sides. Between the heads of the canopies is the head of a Bishop within a quatrefoil. Projecting from the wall below the western arch is the piscina basin with a well carved quatrefoil on the interior of the bowl. The stringcourse runs along above the piscina and is then carried up about one foot and continued above the sedilia and then at the west returned to its former level. There are two graduated sedilia with very elegant ogeeheaded arches and continuous hoodmould terminating east and west on the head of a lady and with head of a man at the centre. There is a solid partition, with a half round enriched with a fillet band carried down the front, separating the two seats. On the north side is a segmental headed priests doorway with the stringcourse carried round above it to form the dripstone or hoodmould. To the west of this is a quaint sculpture (fig. 17) in stone of a young man squatting down on the stringcourse, with his right hand raised to his right cheek, and his left holding a jug. The Chancel roof is high pitched with tie beams and king posts, and is probably of the same date as the rest of the Chancel. The Communion rails are good specimens of Jacobean work. Under the Communion Table is preserved the old altar stone, with four of the crosses still visible. On the Chancel floor is a large blue-stone, nine feet eight inches long, on which is the matrix of a large cross on a stem with richly floriated head. It is of 14th century date, the cross was probably of silver, and may have commemorated a former rector, who was instrumental in rebuilding the Chancel. In the account of the Church in Relton's sketches of Churches we find the following:—"The walls of the Chancel are "ornamented with small paintings; on the north side is David "playing on his harp; on the south Abraham offering up Isaac, and "on either side of the east window are Moses and Aaron, with "angels and cherubims." These have disappeared. They were probably of 18th century date.

The Chancel Arch (fig. 18) is lofty decorated with two chamfered orders, the outer continued to the ground, the inner on curiously sculptured capitals (fig. 19) of the same type as the sculpture on the north wall of the Chancel already described.

On the south side is the figure of a monk, or lady with hood over her head, with a dragon biting his or her arm, on the north is the figure of a man, curled up, with his right hand held up to his ear. A large dragon is biting his right arm. It is difficult to suggest any special interpretation for these quaint designs. The Chancel screen (fig. 20) is very interesting. The beam is embattled and this and the upper tracery is probably of 15th century date, but the shafts supporting this are slender and banded, and have round capitals of the decorated period. The lower part is quite plain. These decorated screens are comparatively rare. A good example remains in the transept at Sparsholt Church. The arch opening from the nave to the south transept is plain obtusely pointed with chamfered edge, and grooved abacus resting on plain responds. It may be of transitional Norman date. There are two deeply splayed lancet windows in the south wall and two more on the east side, each within a containing arch with chamfered edge. A stringcourse with the roll moulding runs round the walls. The roof is high pitched. The arch (fig. 21) opening to the north transept is similar to that on the south, and there are two lancets in the north wall corresponding with those in the south transept. On the east side is a three light square headed window, an insertion of the early 14th century. Set up in the north wall are the brass effigies of a yeoman, his wife, six sons and five daughters and the following inscription (fig. 22):

Here lyeth buried the body of John Jennens
Who deceased the XVII day of November anno
Dni 1599, who had issue by Margaret his wife
VI sonnes and five daughters
Good wife and children agree
Serve the Lord and come to mee.

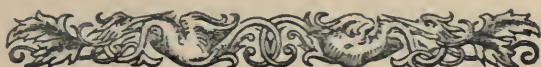
When Ashmole made his notes, this brass was on the floor of "the middle aisle" that is the nave. There is a low plain arch with early abacus opening to the aisle, and above this on the aisle side part of a corbel table, with two plain corbels and one ornamented with conventional foliage. Could this ever have been an exterior wall? On either side of the nave is an arcade (fig. 23) of three lofty arches with chamfered edges, resting at the east and west ends on plain responds with grooved abacus, similar to that of the arches opening to the transepts. The arcades are supported on each side on two circular columns with octagonal abacus, and varied stiff leaved conventional foliage on the capitals, and well moulded bases.

It is very excellent work probably of the commencement of the 13th century. The nave roof is high pitched with tie beams and king posts. In the north aisle are two three light windows of early decorated character with intersecting mullions. In that on east are some canopies and borders in ancient glass. There are three two light windows on south side of the south aisle. The two eastern with a quatrefoil in the head are late decorated, with very solid mullions, and chamfered segmental headed containing arches, the western one is smaller and earlier. The font (fig. 24) at the west end of the aisle is plain tub shaped, set on a square plinth with the angles bevilled off, and with a roll moulding carried round the lower part of the bowl. It is probably Norman, and as we find in many other instances, the most ancient object in the Church. It has a low wooden cover of 18th century date. There is an arch opening eastward from this aisle to the south transept. It is quite plain and rests on an early abacus. It is rather loftier than the arch from the north aisle to the north transept. At the east end of the nave hangs a very fine bronze candelabra presented by Mr. Christopher Elderfield in 1766. The tower arch is Early English with plain outer order and jambs, and chamfered inner order supported on slender cylindrical shafts with semi octagonal capitals, and small abacus. There is a plain arch above opening into the tower. The west window is Early English with two trefoil headed lancets and small vesica shaped opening above with a plain containing arch. There is a shouldered arched doorway to the turret on the north side. The old Communion table with nice carving probably of the 17th century is preserved here. "A tablet under the tower as stated by Lysons" records a singular benefaction of Christopher Elderfield, an eminent divine, who was a native of this Parish and died in 1652; 'he gave lands for the purpose of purchasing, in the spring of every year, two milch cows to be given to 'two of the poorest men in the parish of Harwell, (burthened with 'families), for their sustentation.' His benevolent intentions have proved abortive from the impossibility of a poor man's procuring pasture for a cow in this parish, where the land is chiefly arable. The trustees of the Charity purchase two cows, or oxen, in the winter, if the rent of the lands will suffice, kill them, and distribute the meat among the poor." The south doorway within a porch has a plain chamfered edge to the arch and jambs, and stops on each side at the lower part of the jambs. The outer arch to the porch is of the decorated period with hoodmould and chamfered edge to

arch and jambs. The north doorway has plain chamfered arch jambs and hoodmould. A stringcourse runs along the north aisle wall. The windows to this aisle have a well carved external dripstone or hoodmould, characteristic of this particular period. The windows of the north transept are simply cut out in, and flush with, the wall. There are some low buttresses, one on east has some quatrefoil panelling. There is a similarly carved stone in the Vicarage Garden. The north Chancel doorway is good Early English with crowned head at the apex of the undercut hoodmould and a small roll, and then a larger one enriched with a fillet band set within a hollow on the arch and down the jambs. The east (fig. 25) window has a head at the apex and termination of the hoodmould on either side. There are contemporary buttresses on either side of the eastern angles and between the windows. The two east windows on north of Chancel have a hoodmould terminating on heads of a gentleman and lady, the western one is plain. Those on the south side of the Chancel correspond with those on the north, and the lancets in the south transept are quite plain and flush with the wall, like those on the north. The south aisle windows have no external hoodmould.

The tower (fig. 26) is an excellent example of rather late Early English work. It is low and embattled with a series of billets forming the corbel table, and two light belfry windows with chamfered hoodmould and edge to the containing arches, which enclose two plain lancets having between the heads a small vesica shaped opening, and a quatrefoil on the tympanum above. On each face on the middle stage is a single lancet within a containing arch having a trefoiled fringe. The west window has a plain chamfered hoodmould to the containing arch which encloses two trefoil headed lancets with a vesica shaped opening on the tympanum above. There are shafts at the angles of the upper, and low buttresses supporting the lower, stage. There is a turret with conical top on the north east side. The clock face on the west side is old; the clock dates from 1702. There are six bells dating from the late 16th and 17th century. The south aisle roof has the old lead. The nave is tiled, and the Chancel covered with Westmoreland slates. The base of the old Cross remains in the Churchyard. In the Vicarage Garden is an early holy water stoup, and some other fragments from the Church.

(To be continued.)



Berks Archæological Society.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1911-12.

YOUR Committee has the honour of presenting the Report of the Society's proceedings for the year ending with this Annual Meeting held to-day, April 17th, 1912.

The year that has closed has not been a very exciting one in the history of the Society, but it has been a period of quiet and successful working which has not been altogether barren of results. We have not to record as we did last year the gracious consent of His Majesty King George V. to be our Patron, nor have we again had occasion to present to him any loyal address. Our year has been spent in the endeavour to increase the knowledge and appreciation of Architecture and Archæology in the Royal County and to further the objects for which the Society was founded.

We have carried out our usual programme of lectures and excursions to places of historic and antiquarian interest. Indeed we have tried with some degree of success a two days' excursion which enabled us to travel further afield and to examine with more deliberation and care such interesting objects as Glastonbury Abbey the Cathedral of Wells, and other attractive features of that charming centre. Encouraged by the appreciation of the large number of members who took part in that excursion, your Committee contemplate a repetition of the experiment and propose to arrange a visit to Gloucester this year, and there to sojourn for two days. It is hoped that such an arrangement will prove agreeable to the members.

We should like to have to record some work of excavation undertaken by the Society, or some transcription of ancient monastic charters and documents ; but such undertakings require the expenditure of much time and money ; and unless we can find members who have sufficient leisure to bestow upon such work the requisite knowledge and ability, and unless the Society can largely increase its membership or double the subscriptions, it is impossible to see

how such work can be attempted. By the exertions of our Treasurer and the ready payment of subscriptions, the Society is only just able to pay its way, to pay the rent of this Abbey Gate which we hold by the kind permission of the Mayor and Corporation of Reading, and defray the cost of lectures, etc., and it is difficult to see wherever a large increase in our funds is to come. Your Secrétary last year propounded a scheme for extending the work of the Society throughout the County by forming Committees in Maidenhead, Windsor and other important centres. If this could be done and one strong Archæological Society formed for the whole of Berkshire, much might be attempted which a small body cannot hope to accomplish. We would venture to urge upon all the members to assist in promoting the interests of the Society, forming Committees in various centres, and to help the officials, who are somewhat busy even by undertaking work which will further their objects for which the Society exists.

LECTURES AND EXCURSIONS.

During the past year the usual number of excursions and lectures have been held, viz; two excursions, one of which extended over two days and seven lectures. It may be stated that during the past Winter Session the Society has been especially favoured by its lecturers, many of whom were thorough experts and authorities on the subjects on which they were good enough to address us. Some of them were accomplished and busy architects, to whom time was of much value; and yet they were willing to journey from London and to devote greater part of a day to our enjoyment and enlightenment. The gratitude of the members is especially due to these gentlemen.

LECTURES.

On May 4th, when the last Annual Meeting was held Mr. Gordon Hills gave a very interesting lecture on "Notes on the Customs and Constitutions of the Cathedral of the Old Foundations, with special reference to Chichester." Those who were interested in the lecture may be glad to know that it has since been published in the Journal of the British Archæological Association.

On November 17th, the first lecture of the Winter Session was given by Mr. J. Hautenville Cope on the "History of the Ancient Priory of Herteley Wynteney," a lecture which showed much careful research; and it is hoped that now Mr. Cope has come to reside in Berkshire and is a member of our Committee, he may be able to extend his researches into the history of the County. We may say

that he has for some years been engaged on the Victoria County History of Berkshire.

On December 15th, 1911, a valuable lecture was given by Mr. Charles Ffoulkes on "Armour on Monumental Effigies, XIII to XVI century," illustrated by an excellent series of lantern slides. Mr. Ffoulkes is the author of an important book on "Arms and Armour," and is recognised as one of the chief authorities on the subject. The Society was fortunate in having secured his services as a lecturer.

On January 18th, 1912, Mrs. Hautenville Cope, the authoress of "How to decipher Ancient Documents," gave an eloquent lecture on "Pedigrees and Genealogy," and brought to her aid her intimate knowledge of Parish Registers, many of which she has transcribed.

On February 18th the distinguished architect Mr. E. Guy Dawber gave a charming lecture on "Fountains" illustrated by lantern slides.

On March 8th, another accomplished architect, Mr. Edward Warren, delighted the members with an exhibition of splendid views of "Collegiate Architecture" of many lands and a graphic description of the same.

On March 28th, the President delivered one of his charming lectures on Berkshire Churches, this year dealing with the Churches of Steventon, Harwell, Didcot and Hagbourne, illustrated by a series of beautiful views specially prepared for the occasion by Mr. Marcus Adams. A very large gathering of the members showed their appreciation of Mr. Keyser's architectural studies.

At the close of this Annual Meeting we shall be again favoured by a lecture from Mr. Mervyn Macartney, F.R.S., who will discourse to us on the pleasant theme of "Old Gardens."

The thanks of the Society are due to all these lecturers for their kind and generous services, and also to those ladies and gentlemen who have entertained the members at the lectures or during the excursions. Among these are the President and Mrs. Keyser, Sir Edward and Lady Barry, the Rev. and Mrs. Morris Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Fellowes, Miss Hissey, Miss Cooper-Smith, Mrs. F. E. Williams, the Mayor and Mayoress of Wells, the Rev. R. A. C. Bevan and Lady Mary Bevan.

EXCURSIONS.

On Wednesday and Thursday, July 26th and 27th, the Society visited the Cathedral City of Wells, and it was gratifying to the organisers of the excursion that so many were able to join this,

the first two days' excursion arranged by the Society. The Swan Hotel was their headquarters. By special permission the Bishop's Palace was visited and then the Cathedral where Canon Church and the Dean described the building. After tea Dr. Cuthbert's Church and the Budwith Almshouses were inspected and also the Vicar's Close. The Mayor and Mayoress gave a reception in the evening and exhibited the insignia of the city which were described by the Town Clerk. Glastonbury Abbey was visited on the following morning under the guidance of Mr. Francis Bond, and other interesting objects were inspected in the old romantic town, and in the afternoon the members journeyed to Cheddar and saw the famous cliffs and caves. Pleasant memories will long be retained of the visit to Wells and its neighbourhood.

On October 2nd the Society visited Winkfield, Warfield and Binfield. The Churches were admirably described by the President, Mr. C. A. Ferard, Lord of the Manor, and the Vicar of the parish, welcomed the party at Winkfield. At Winkfield the genial presence of the late Vicar the Rev. B. C. Littlewood, a member of our Committee was much missed. At Binfield after a visit to the Church, Mr. and Lady Mary Bevan kindly entertained the Society to tea in the Rectory.

During the ensuing season the Committee hope to arrange a series of excursions. It is expected that a two-days' excursion to Gloucester will form part of our programme, and also a visit to the villages described by the President in his last lecture. It has been suggested that a visit to London would be agreeable to many members.

PUBLICATIONS.

The Editors regret that the third volume of the Berkshire Victorian History has not yet appeared. We can only say that it is approaching completion, and the final proofs were promised to your Secretary this month..

The Journal of this Society has reached its eighteenth volume, and its pages have been enriched for some years past by the President's architectural studies illustrated by many plates most kindly presented by him. The last volume includes the history of Bisham Abbey by Sir Henry Vansittart Neale, Feet of Fines transcribed by Mr. Acton Pile, Tom Hughes' Country by the Hon. A. E. Gathorne Hardy, Proceedings of Societies, Notes and Queries, and other items relating to the County.

OBITUARY.

We have to record the decease of several old members and supporters of the Society and whose loss we all deplore. Mr. Charles Smith, one of our Vice-Presidents, an able and accomplished architect, will be much missed. He took a keen interest in our Society, was constantly present at our meetings and with felicitous phrase and kindly utterances used to express words of encouragement and help to all those who in any way were aiding the work of the Society. He has enriched the town of Reading and neighbourhood with many examples of his architectural skill.

Mr. Albury, another architect, who was also a Vice-President, has recently been called away from us. In the early days of the Society's existence he took a living interest in its formation and development; and though in recent times stress of work has prevented him from taking an active part in our proceedings, we always knew that we had in him a good friend and well-wisher, while his devotion to archæology is witnessed by a paper he wrote some years ago on Reading Abbey.

The death of the Rev. B. C. Littlewood, Vicar of Warfield, has caused the deepest regret which has been felt by his many friends, amongst whom were many of our members. He was a member of our Committee, and we had no more faithful colleague than Mr. Littlewood. He and his devoted wife were seldom absent from our meetings in this room, or from our excursions. It is with a keen sense of personal loss that we record in this brief notice our tribute to the memory of a kind friend and fellow-worker whose sudden call from earth we so bitterly regret.

With these few words we beg leave to close this Report, and to express the hope that each member of the Society will do his best to further the work of the Society during the opening year, and to aid that work to the best of his ability.

Treasurer's Report for Annual Meeting, April 19th, 1912.

CASH STATEMENT FOR YEAR 1911.

Receipts.		1911.		Expenses.		1911.	
1911.		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
Cash in hand, January 1st, 1911	...	6	0 8½	Paid Caretaker	...	8	9 6
By Subscriptions for 1908	...	0	5 0	Wood, Coal and Gas Accounts	...	9	4 4
" " 1909	...	0	10 0	Rents, Rates, Taxes	...	33	12 4
" " 1910	...	2	0 0	Cost of Lectures, Lanterns, etc.	...	4	10 0
" " 1911	...	35	2 0	Postage, Carriage of Parcels, Telegrams, etc.	...	4	13 9
" " 1912	...	1	10 6	Printing, Advertising and Treasurer's Exps.	...	5	0 0
Hire of Rooms for 1910	...	7	13 6	Address to H.M. the King	...	2	15 0
" " 1911	...	14	3 6	Cash in hand, December 31st, 1911	...	1	1 3½
Profit on Excursions, July 26th and 27th, and October 2nd.	...	21	17 0				
	...	2	1 0				
		£69	6 2½			£69	6 2½

Audited and found Correct

W. R. MORRIS,

Shinfield Road, Reading.



An Old Hurley Priory Deed (A.D. 1306.)

A few weeks ago, I came across a reference—in the *Archæological Journal* for March 1851—to an old Hurley deed hitherto unknown to me. It is in the form of a Notification by Alexander de Neuport, Prior of Hurley, dated The Vigil of St. Laurence, 34 Edw. I. [August 9th, 1306]. In 1851 this interesting little document was finding sanctuary in the Duchy of Lancaster Office (in London); but on my applying there, early last April, I was courteously informed that it was no longer preserved in that Office, but that, if still in existence, I might find it in the Public Record Office, in Chancery Lane. And there, sure enough, to my great satisfaction I soon ran the deed to ground. It is now docketted in that marvellous Repository as “Ancient Deeds, L.S. [Lancaster. Seals.] No. 138.”

An excellent photograph of this literary *bijou* has just been taken, which represents it with extraordinary fidelity and exactness, the same size as the original. The parchment upon which this manuscript is written, in old French, is seven inches and three-quarters in length by three-and-a-half in depth. It is somewhat blurred, but it is almost entirely legible throughout. A dark-coloured seal appended to the deed, on the centre of a parchment tag, is quite distinct. Slightly oval in shape, one inch in length and three-quarters of an inch in breadth, the edges of this seal are a bit chipped and irregular; but, inasmuch as the impression was made nearly six hundred and six years ago, it is wonderful that the wax has lasted so long and so well as it has! The seal represents the head and shoulders of a man in Benedictine robes, with the cowl drawn up over his head, whilst the right hand and arm, with the fingers slightly apart, are raised from the elbow in prayer or adoration. Several letters of the word SIGILLVM are embossed on the border of the device and the last three letters of NEVPORT are distinctly traceable. A second tag of parchment

partly tucked under the back of the body of the deed appears in the photograph ; it is rather narrower than the other tag already referred to.

The text of the deed is a Notification by Prior Alexander. It commences as follows :—"To all those who shall see or hear this letter Alexander de Neuport [sends] greeting in God"; and then it proceeds to recount the fact that the House of Hurley (*Meson de Hurle*—Hurley Priory) is grievously distrained upon for ten oxen and six cows (*pur akune cho[se]*) which Humfrey de Bohun and Elizabeth his wife (*sa compagne*) demand of us, &c., &c. This is the main plaint of the case ; and the Prior binds the Priory to pay before a certain time all that is due from them under penalty of forty pounds (*Quarante livres*), &c.

The special interest of this deed centres in the reference contained in it to the family of de Bohun.

The house of de Bohun was allied by marriage with the house of Geoffrey de Mandeville, the founder and benefactor of Hurley Priory, gifted with more than a hundred manors by the victorious Conqueror (besides the Suffolk holdings). He held estates in no fewer than eleven different counties. The exordium of Geoffrey's Charter to Hurley is one of the prettiest imaginable. It is an outpouring of thankfulness for the bounties which have been showered on him by his royal patron :—"Let the Faithful and sons of the Catholic Holy Mother Church, now and hereafter, know that I, Geoffrey of Mandeville, have granted and of my bounty have given to God and S. Peter, and to the Church of Westminster, as also to S. Mary of Hurley, for the salvation and redemption of my own soul, and for that of my wife Leceline, at whose counsel, by the Providence of Divine Grace, I began this good work ; and for the soul of Athelais my first wife, and mother of my sons, as also for that of all my heirs and successors, the said Church of S. Mary of Hurley, in Berkshire, &c., &c." He had buried Athelais in the Westminster Cloisters and expressed the pious wish that he should lie beside her at his death. He says of himself (in a grant to Eye) "*qui etiam juxta eam sepeliendus sum.*" His eldest son and heir, William, was created first Constable of the Tower of London. He married Margaret, only daughter of Eudo de Brie, "dapifer" or King's Steward to William the Conqueror. Their eldest son Geoffrey was created first Earl of Essex, a reckless dare-devil, who died at Mildenhall, in Suffolk, in 1144, from a wound which he had received at the battle of Burwell in the wars with King Stephen.

This Geoffrey's eldest son, Arnulf, was disinherited and outlawed ; and Arnulf's younger brother Geoffrey succeeded to the Earldom of Essex. He died in 1166, and was succeeded by his brother William, as the third Earl. He died childless in 1189, and was succeeded in his estates by his aunt Beatriz, the sister of Geoffrey, the first Earl, who by that time must have been somewhat of a dowager. She had been married first to Hugh de Talebot and afterwards to William de Saye (from whom, by the way, the present Lord Saye and Sele derives his first name), and it was through a grand-daughter of this Beatriz (by her second husband), also named Beatriz, who had married Geoffrey Fitz Piers (4th Earl of Essex) that the connexion between the de Mandevilles and the de Bohuns was (directly) established, viz., on the marriage of this last-named Beatriz's daughter Maud, with Henry de Bohun, Earl of Hereford and Lord High Constable. He died in 1220.

Humfrey de Bohun, great grandson of this Maud, was married to Elizabeth, sixth daughter of King Edward I., and it is this Elizabeth who figures as one of the parties in the distress suit lately discovered by me in the Record office—a link in the chain of Hurley's wonderful position in the Monastic history of England. It is further interesting to remember that these last-named scions in the de Bohun pedigree [Humfrey and Elizabeth] were the great grandparents of that Mary de Bohun who married King Henry IV., whilst he was still Earl of Derby, and who was the mother of King Henry V. and of all the other children of Henry IV. (Henry IV. had no children by his second wife, who was Joan of Navarre). So great a benefactor was Henry IV. to Hurley Priory, that William of Ipswich whilst Prior [1380-1400] when granting (on May 13, 1387) to Peter Peterwych (besides a room in the Priory whenever he liked to use it) the following corody, or allowance, viz., "one white convent loaf, one flagon of beer and a mess of kitchen food (*unum ferculum coquine*), such as a Monk in the Refectory of the Priory receives as general commons" to enjoy daily for his life, gives expressly as his reason for so doing "*ad reverenciam et instanciam Nobilissimi ac illustrissimi domini viri ac fundatoris domus nostre domini Henrici Comitis Derby, Hereford et Northampton ac domini de Breknok.*" Thus, this Prior of Hurley even exalted Henry IV. as deserving a place in the Walhalla of Hurley benefactors, not less distinguished than Geoffrey de Mandeville I. himself!

By writ of privy seal at Westminster, on May 16, 1401, Henry IV. made a grant of timber and other wood to the Prior and Convent

at Hurley "to the value of a hundred marks out of their own particular wood within our [Windsor] forest aforesaid for the repair of the Church, belfry and houses aforesaid free from disturbance without impeachment at the hands of ourselves or our servants whomsoever, save always our vert and venison (*viridi et feris*)."

It is worthy of remark that, in the recently discovered deed of Notification which forms the subject of this paper, Hurley Priory is referred to as the "Meson [*Maison*] de Hurle"—House of Hurley; and in this connexion I may notice that in the number of "The Penny Magazine" for February 17, 1838, now before me—the old Elizabethan House, built by the Lovelace family, in Lady Place, Hurley—pulled down for the sake of its materials, in December, 1838—is styled "Hurley House, or Lady Place, Berks."

Alexander de Neuport, I may mention, appears as Prior of Hurley in the Westminster series of Hurley Charters and Deeds on three occasions only, viz., on July 25, 1305, when he is found as granting, in co-operation with the Chapter of Hurley great and small tithes arising from the demesnes of the lords of Eynho [Aynho, Northants] for life to Peter, son of Hubert de Eynho, at a yearly rent of twenty shillings payable at Hurley. Next, in a deed of Acquittance he figures as Prior of Hurley, on July 2, 1306, as absolved from rendering any account of certain moneys, etc., to Henry de Blontisdone; and lastly, on May 15, 1309, he is found co-operating, as Prior, with the Hurley Chapter in granting a messuage in Hurley to Reginald de la Hale [Hall Place].

F. T. WETHERED.

Hurley Vicarage, Berks.

June, 1912.

READING ABBEY.—From time to time relics of Reading Abbey are brought to light. Lately in digging the foundations for the Upper Ship Hotel, Reading, which is now being re-built, three pieces of masonry have been found. They are (1) a moulded keystone of the 15th century in very good preservation, which is enriched with four crockets to the base of a finial. (2) The other is apparently the voussoir of a 12th cent. arch, and is ornamented with a typical Norman billet moulding—fairly well preserved. (3) The third stone is apparently the voussoir of a 13th cent. arch, deeply moulded with the roll and hollow of the period. It is understood that these stones will be utilized by the architects in the new building. While a 4th object of interest has been discovered, viz., an old water pipe bored from an elm tree—these "tree water pipes" were used by our forefathers before the days of metal ones.

HARWELL CHURCH.



Fig. 15.

FROM THE NORTH WEST.

HARWELL CHURCH.



Fig. 17. SCULPTURED FIGURE, NORTH SIDE OF CHANCEL.



Fig. 18.

INTERIOR LOOKING EAST.

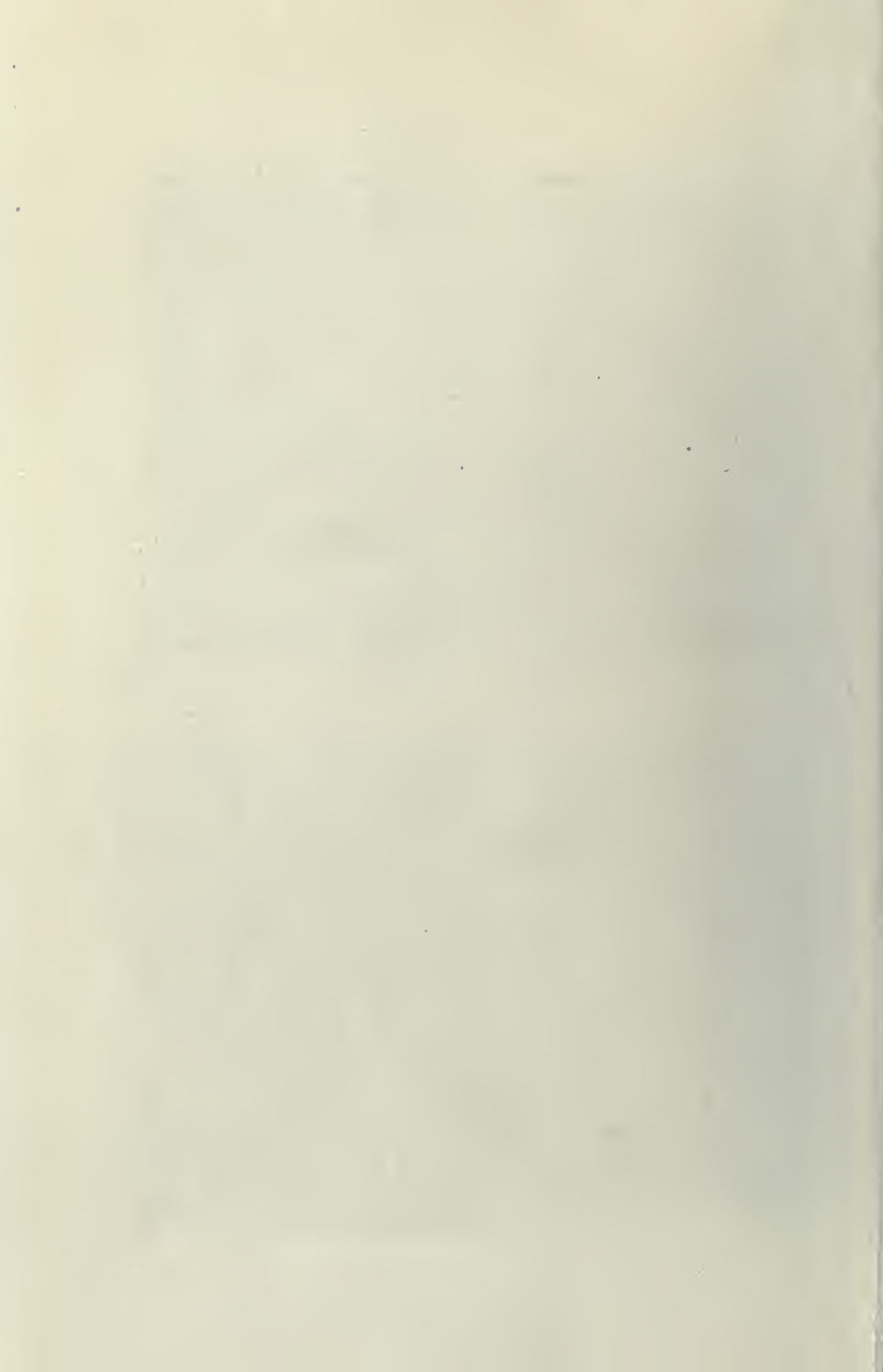


HARWELL CHURCH.



Fig. 19.

IMPOSTS OF CHANCEL ARCH.

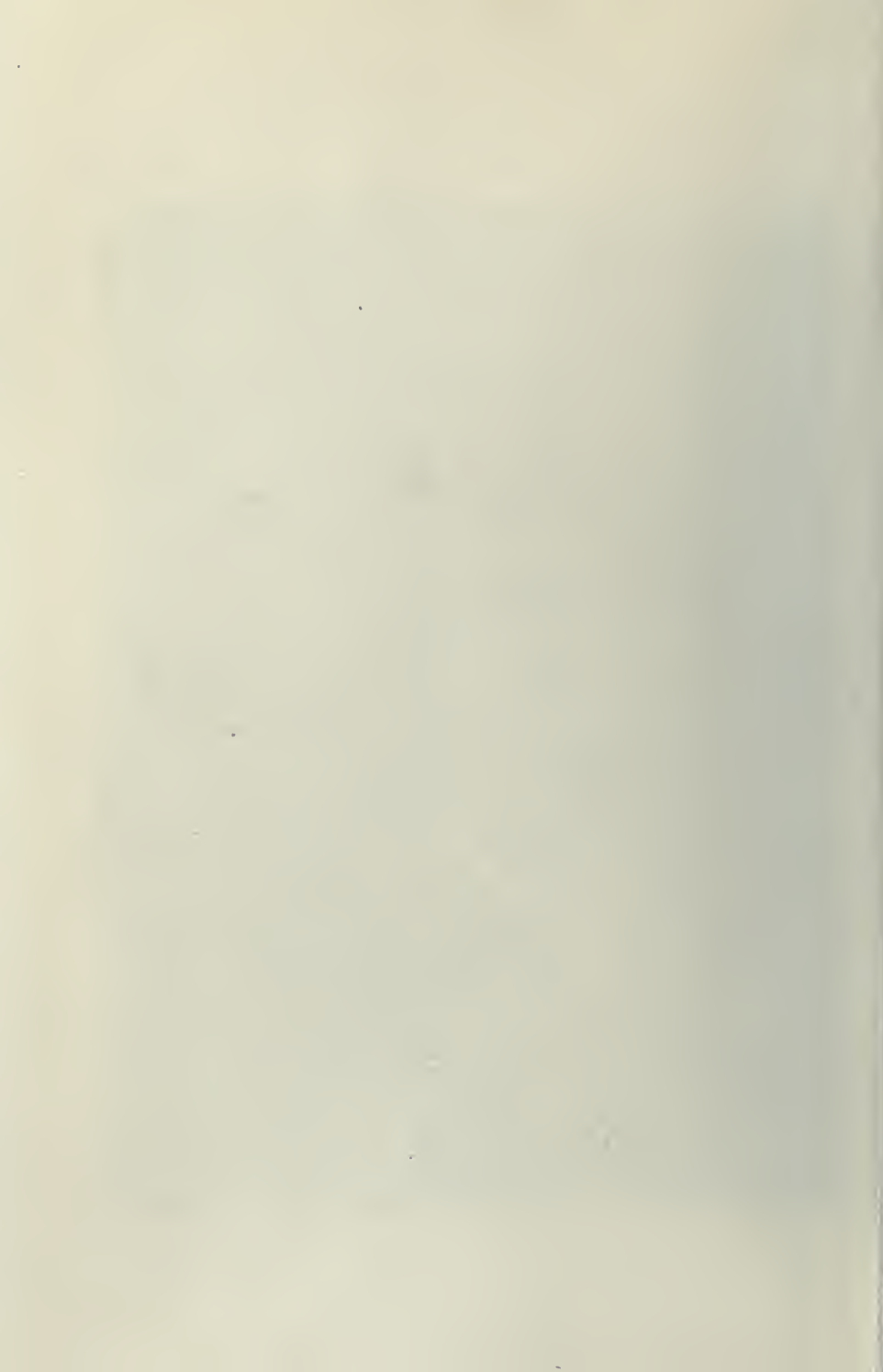


HARWELL CHURCH.



Fig. 20.

CHANCEL SCREEN.

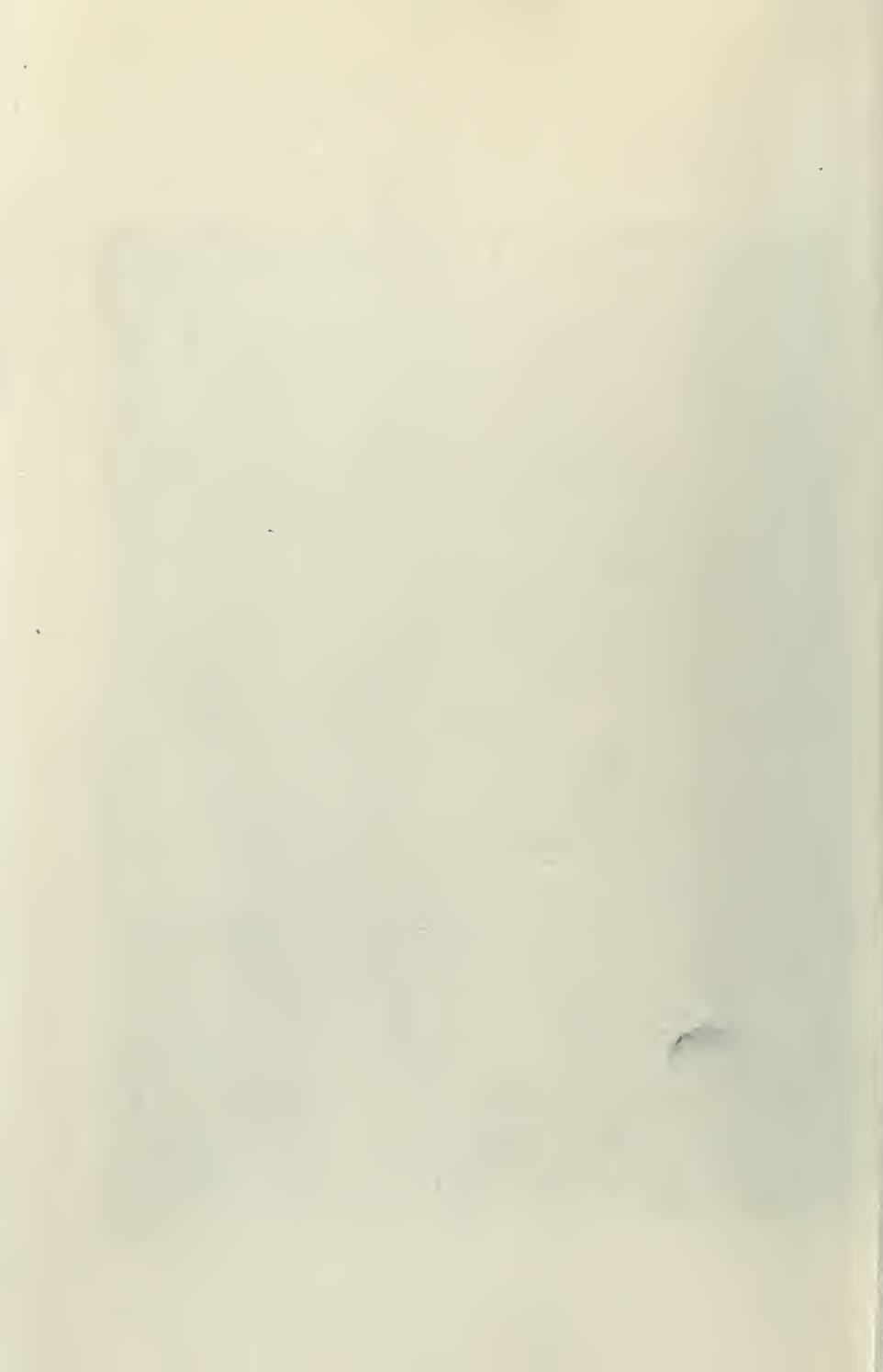


HARWELL CHURCH.



Fig. 21.

NORTH TRANSEPT.



HARWELL CHURCH.

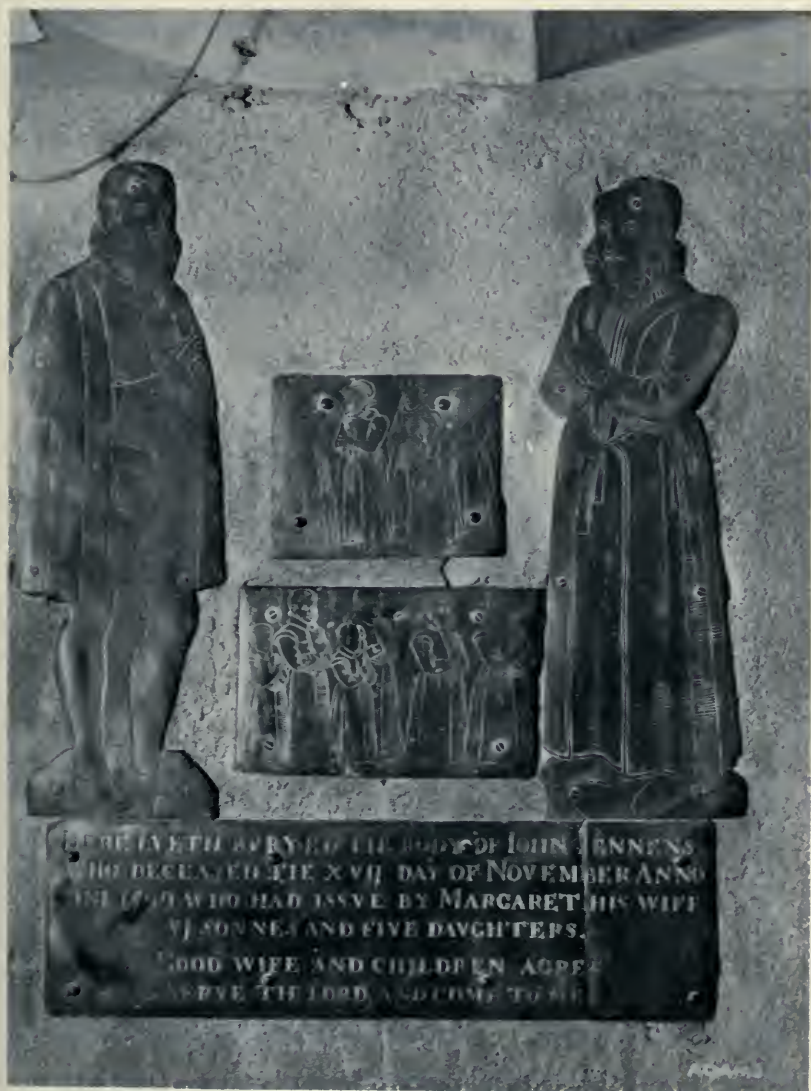


Fig. 22.

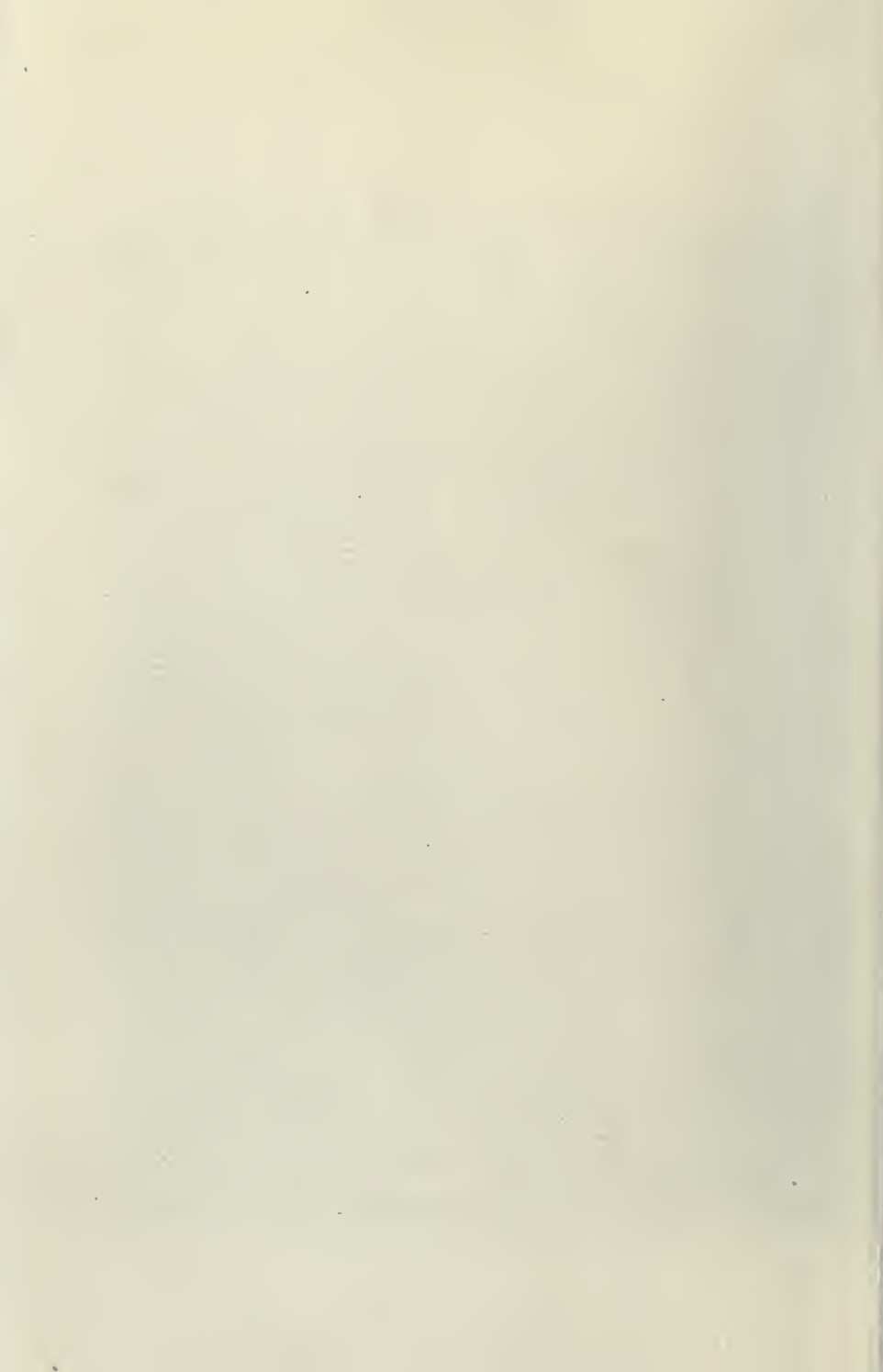
BRASS TO JOHN AND MARGARET JENNENS.





Fig. 23.

NAVE LOOKING WEST.

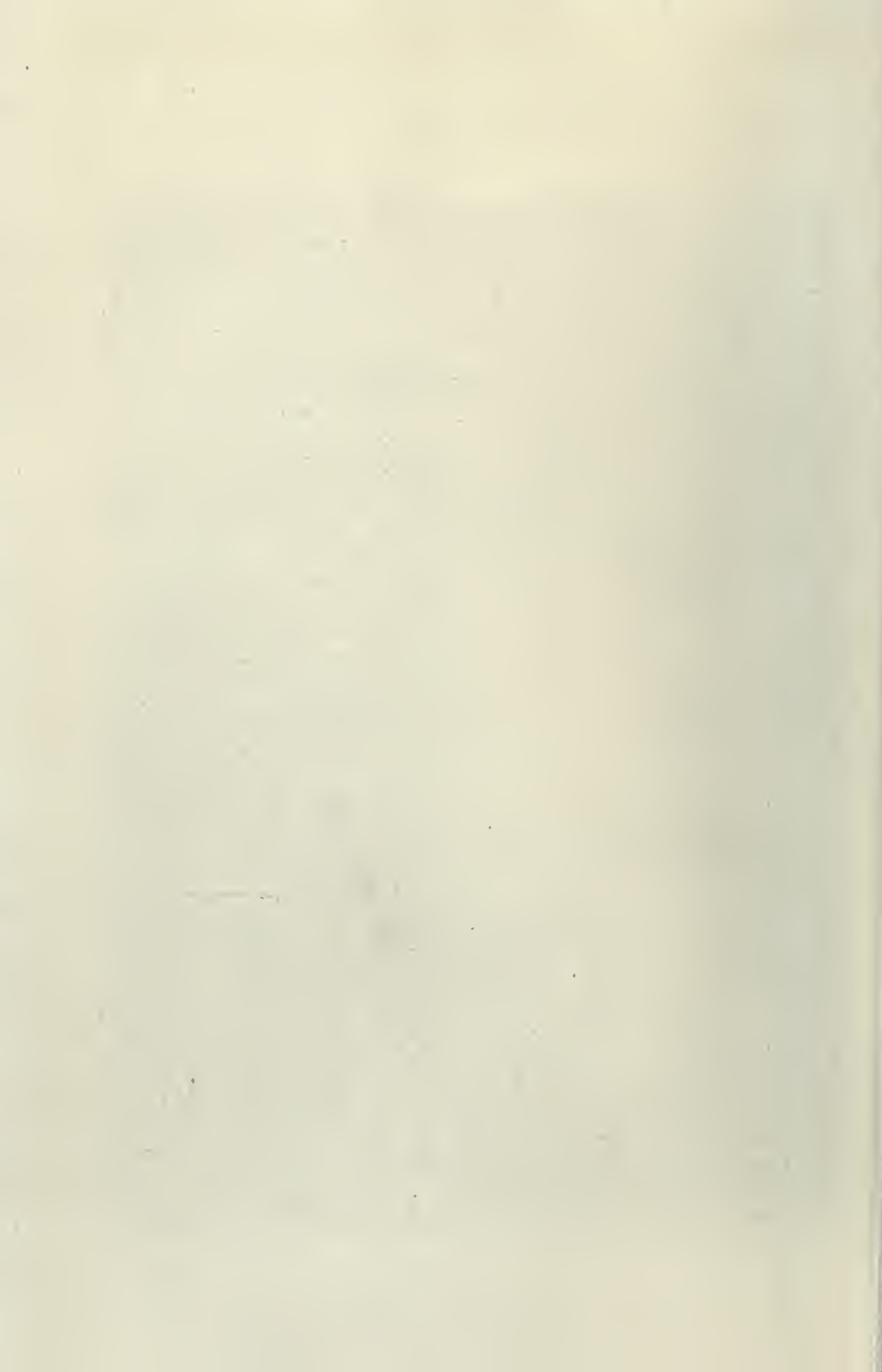


HARWELL CHURCH.



Fig. 24.

THE FONT.



HARWELL CHURCH.



Fig. 25.

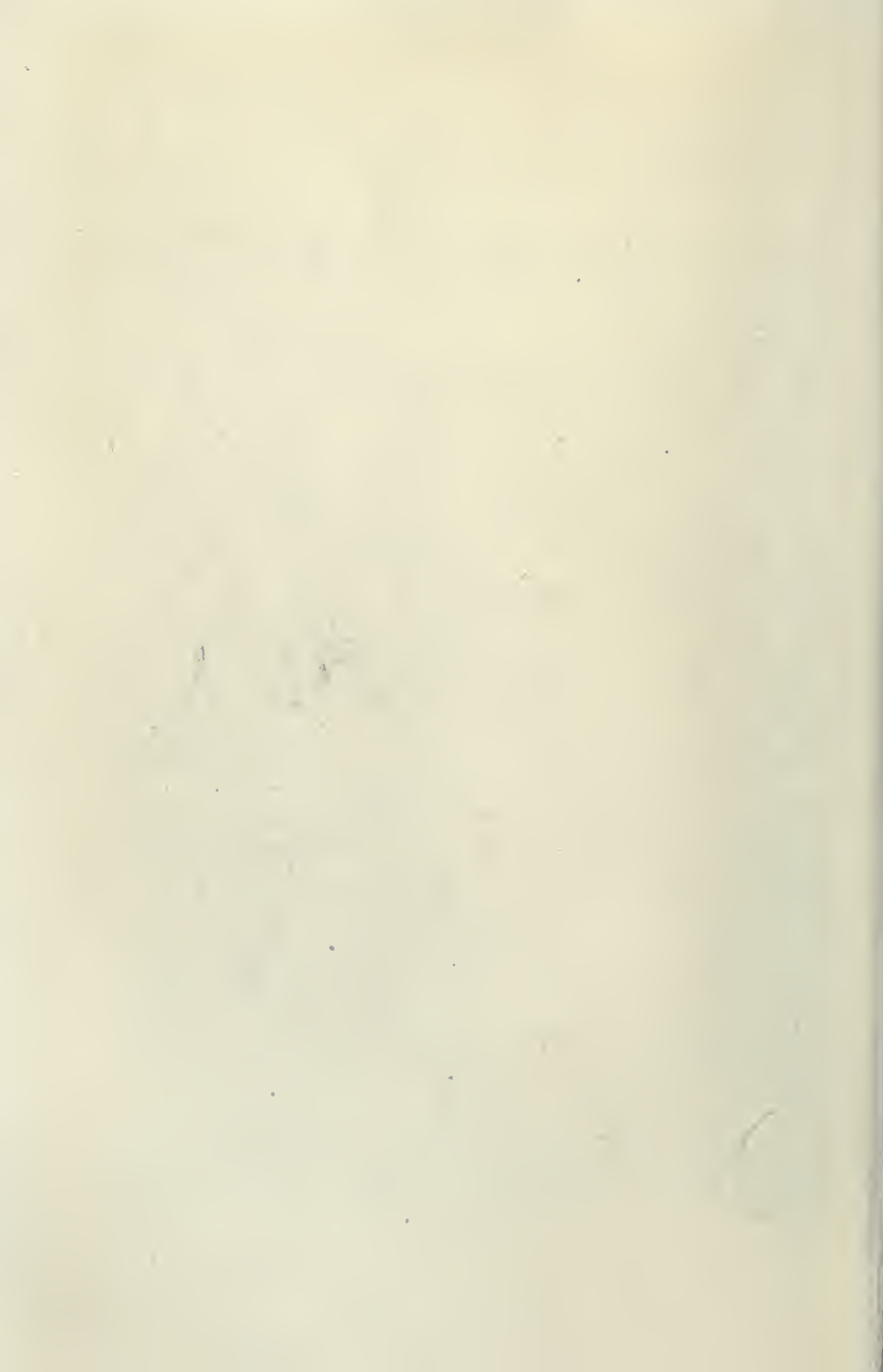
THE EAST WINDOW.

HARWELL CHURCH.



Fig. 26.

THE WEST TOWER.





Church Briefs.

By the Rev. Canon Oldfield.

Church Briefs, by W. A. Bewes, 1896, gives a very complete account of this method of raising money, records of which are to be found in most of our parish registers. In the registers of the parish of Little Wittenham, notes of the amounts paid by briefs are included in the Overseers' accounts from 1730 to 1746. Between 1647 and 1729, in addition to many entries "given to a breefe," there are also particulars given of as many as 274 such appeals. As some of these supplement the information given by Bewes, those who possess that book may be glad to have the following notes. The amounts given are the amounts of the loss sustained where they differ from, or are omitted by Bewes.

- 1660-1. for the rebuyld of Pontefract Church.
1680-1. East Dearham, Norfolk, loss £19443.
1681-2. Stafford, £1944.
Repair of the great Parish Church of St. Albans, Herts.
Ensham, £1330 17 4.
Petition by order of King and Council, and by direction of
the Bishop for a fire at Broad Chalke, Wilts.
1682-3. Elempton, Devon, £1262 19 0.
Caister, Lincs, £6786 13 10.
New Windsor, £5135 13 2.
Presteigne, co. Radnor, £6152 18 0.
St Catherines, London, £4799 19 6.
St Thomas & St Olave, Southwark, £3752 18 0.
Preston Candover, co. Southampton, £1274 18 6.
1683-4. Violent Flood in Braintford River, Mdsex.
St Paul Shadwell, Hamlet of Wapping, in the Parishes of
Whitechapel and Stepney, £56348.
Newmarket, Suff. £20264.
Preserving the Church of Llanumddufery, Caerm, £2500.
Burrough of Bradninch, Devon, fire, £900 and upwards.
1690-1. Stafford, £830 10 0.
St George's, Southwarke, £99000.

- 1698-9. Soham, Cambs., £759 and upwards.
Minhead, co. Som. £4030.
Drury Lane, £7320.
Derbie Court, Westminster, £3030.
- 1700-1. Beccles, Suff. £7634 19 0.
St Mary Magd. Bermondsey, £23079 3 6.
Robert Bale's loss by fire, £1135 8 3.
Cruckmeal, Salop, £700.
Repair of Bromeley Ch. Staffs., £3000.
Broughton, Northants, £2252.
Leominster Church, Hereford, fire, £14241 18 1.
- 1702-3. Rolleston, Staffs., £1304.
Haddenham, Bucks., £3715.
Blaidson, Glos., £4210.
Congleton, damage by water, £1620.
Shutsford, Oxon, £1749 12 4.
Lutterworth Church, blown down by a storme of wind.
Ely in the Isle of Ely, £6305.
Chepstow Church, Mon., £4346.
Monkes-Kerbie, Warw., Chuch blown down by wind.
Great Massingham, Nor. £1480.
House of Wm Catterbank, Longdon, Staffs, £492.
- 1703-4. Wrottesley, Staffs., £800.
- 1704-5. Stony Stratford, £669.
- 1705-6. All Hallows Church, Oxford, damage, £4800.
Kirton in Lindsey, Lincs., £1000 and upwards.
Chatteris, Isle of Ely, 1787.
- 1706-7. Wizardsbury, Bucks., £554.
Reparation of St Cuthbert's Ch., Darlington, £1703.
North Marston, Bucks., £3465.
Sheer Lane, Mdsex, £3503.
- 1708-9. Alconbury cum Weston, Hunts., £3310 10 0.
- 1710-1. Rotherish Wall, Surry, £1640.
Rotherhith Church, Surry, £4361.
- 1711-12. Edinburgh, £3527.
Fadmore, Yorks., £1163.
- 1712-13. Whitechurch, Salop, fire.
- 1713-14. William Adams, loss by fire, £1101.
- 1715-16. for the Cowkeepers in Mdsex, £24539.
- 1717-18. Oldury Church, Glos., £1169.
- 1720-21. for sufferers by Thunder Haile &c. in Staffs. £4169.

INVESTMENT OF CHARITABLE FUNDS.

Everybody knows that before the care of the poor was undertaken by the state these poor were aided by the bequests of the richer parishioners. Until the establishment of the banks and other public funds, these bequests, when not in land, were invested in sheep and cattle which were let out to the parishioners at so much a head. But when wool went down in price so that this method was no longer profitable, the money was lent to the farmers in turn at interest. These capital sums formed the Parish Stock. This is illustrated by the following entries in the Churchwardens records of the Parish of Little Wittenham.

Memor. that John Harefoord and John Elton Receaved of Thomas Lawrence Churchwarden fortie shillings apeese, beeing parte of the stocke for the poore: Thay receaved it the seuenth day of June Ano Dni 1618, and are to restore it that day twelue moneth; it was deliuered in the prsents of me Hugh Whistler and of John Millman.

November 23 1628. M. that I Thomas Hardwell (inhabitant) of the pish of Wittenham Abbis in Com. Berks doe acknowledge my self to have received of Thomas Lawrence and Joseph Pisley Churchwardens of Wittenham aforesaid the sume of Seaven pounds of laweful money of England beinge the stocke of ye poore of Wittenham aforsaid wch sume of money I doe bind myself my Executors Administrators and Assignes truelie to satisfie and paie upon the Feast of All Saints next ensuinge the date heareof into the hands of the Churchwardens then being.

In Wittnesse whereof I have hearunto put my hand the daie and yeere above written.

The marke of Thomas Hardwell T H
Subscribed in the prsence of John Powell curat
The X marke of Thomas French.

The Charitable Legacye of John Barnes of London gentleman, Whoe lieth burried heere, in the parrishe Church of little wittenham, Whoe by his last will & Testament, bearinge date the xiiijth of Maye, in the yere of oure Lorde 1558: and in the xxxth yere of the raigne of our dreade souereigne Lady, Queene Elizabeth, amongst other very godly dispositions, bequeathed and gave vnto the Inhabitants and howsholders of the saide pishe for a perpetuall stock, to be and remayne amonngest theym, the some of Twentie powndes of lafull english monney, Which accordingly hath byn paid by his executr Walter Dunche gentleman unto whome he lefte a power, for

the manner and forme, of the disposicion thereof whoe doeth make this ordynance : as followeth.

First the monney to be equally devided into fower partes, and the fower of the Inhabytants, being howseholders within littell Wittenhm aforesaid to haue fyve pounds a piece delyvered vnto theym for twoo yeeres.

Item that they and euie of theym put in one sufficient and good sewartie to be bounde in dovble the some for the trewe payment of yt agayne at the ende of twoo yeeres, the sewarties to be suche as Willm Dunche esquier and Mary his wyfe shall like of duringe their lyves, and then their heires after theym in suche like sort for evar.

Item that he or they hath hadd the saide monney one twoo yeeres shall not at the ende of same twoo haue yt agayne by no devise or cunnynge vntil it hath gone thorowgh the whole Inhabitants and howsholders thereof.

Item that he or they which shall faile of the payment of their monney at the twoo yeeres ende to be excluded for havinge any parte thereof for his defalte duringe his lyfe tyme.

Wa Dunche, p testimoniū Johis Heddei.

Anno domini 1646. The Wordes of the Lady Clarkes will touching the disposall of the tenn poundes giuen by her in Christian Charyty to the poore of the pish of Little Wittenham.

Item I doe giue vnto the poor of Little Wittenham Tenn pounds to be payed into the hands of Mr. Henry Whistler wthin one moneth after my decease wch I will shall be disposed in manner following (viz).

To be lent vpon good securitie vnto two of the poorer sorte of the parishioners there yearley by equal porcons after the rate of fowre poulds in the hundred ; And I will that the persons that shall haue the sayed money at Interest shall yearly one the feast day of St Thomas the Apostle betwixte the howers of One and Three of the Clocke in the afternoons of the same day be nominated in the pish Church of Little Wittenham afforesayed : And I doe appoynte that the Lord of the Mannour of Little Wittenham for the time being, The parson of the pish of Little Wittenham for the time being, and the Churchwardens of the said pish for the time being, or the maior parte of them then and there prsent shall haue the nomination and apoyntment of those that shall haue the sayd monney ; And in case there shall be equallitie of voyces, then I will that those shall haue the monney wch the Lord of the sayd mannour shall nominate ; And I will that the monney wch shall be yearley due for

the Interest thereof shall at that time and place be diuided amongst the poorest householders of the sayd parish ; to be nominated by the psons afforsayd in manner afforesayd.

AN EARLY ATTEMPT AT INDEXING PARISH REGISTERS.

At the end of the two earliest Registers of the parish of Little Wittenham, an Index has been begun of the names in the preceding pages, arranged in the alphabetical order of the *Christian* names. These Registers date from 1538 to 1598, and from 1558 to 1669, the identical years being duplicated. A note on the first page calls attention to these Indexes, that in the first volume being as follows :—

“ A regester booke for Little witnam begonne in the yere of o^r lord god one thousande five hundred thirtye & eight and in the raigne of Kinge Henry the eyght of famous memory xxx^o.

For the more readyer fydinge oute of any name conteyned in this booke : in the latter end thereof you shall finde three several tables one for christnings an other for maryages, & the thirde for buryalls. and at ye ende of everye name ye number of the leafe. And markinge what letter (ye name you looke for) begineth wthhall, tourne straytwaies vnto ye leaf beinge already nombred and you shall finde it. Desiringe all those that shall come after to observe the same order as they see alreadye begonne. By me Thomas Hearde sometome curate of this parrishe.
corrected 1585.”

[Hyrde, Thomas, sup. for B.A. 12 June 1526, Mar. 1527⁶ he is to respond in the New Logic in the second year after this, adm. 8 Apr., disp. 7 Dec. for poverty. *Boase, Register of the Univ. of Oxford*].

Small Bronze Coins of Roman Usurpers.

By William Cozens.

The Roman empire under the emperor Gallienus was in a state of confusion partly caused by the inroads of the barbarians, but chiefly due to usurpation of authority by ambitious men who took advantage of the weakness and laxity of the Imperial Government. The commanders of the army who assumed independent sovereignty

exercised the prerogative of coining money which by reason of the constant intercourse with Gaul found its way into Britain where it was probably equally current with that issued from the Imperial mints. The following examples of small bronze coins struck by order of some of these usurpers were, with one exception, found at Dorchester, Oxfordshire.

Obv. Imp. C Postumus Aug. Radiate bust to righr. Rev. Jovi Victoria, Jupiter standing to r.

Obv. Another with same title. Rev. Lœtitia Aug. A galley to left. Found recently.

Obv. Imp. C. Victorinus P F Aug. Radiate bust to r. Rev. Salus Aug. Health to l with serpent and patera.

Obv. similar. Rev. Fides Militum. Faith to l.

Obv. Imp. C Marius P F Aug. Rev. Victoria Aug. Found at Crowmarsh Battle, Oxon, Vide April, Number of Journal.

Obv. Imp. C Tetricus P F Aug. Radiate bust to r. Rev. Pax Aug. Peace with olive branch to l.

Obv. C. P. Tetricus Cæsar. Radiate bust to r. Rev. Spes Augg. Hope to l. holding a flower, and lifting her robe.

Obv. Imp. C Carausius P. F. Aug. Radiate bust to r. Rev. Pax Aug. Peace to l. holding olive branch and spear. Fifth year.

Obv. Similar. Rev. Monita Aug. Moneta to l. holding scales cornucopiæ. A variation; rare. Found recently.

Obv. Imp C Allectus P. F. Aug. Radiate bust to r. Rev. Moneta Aug. Moneta to l. holding scales and cornucopiæ. Rare, this remarkable type having been discontinued! First year.

Obv. Similar. Rev. Pax Aug. Peace to l. holding olive branch and sceptre.

Obv. Similar. Rev. Virtus Aug. A galley.

The history of these usurpers may be thus briefly stated :— Postumus a native of Gaul was made Governor of that province by the emperor Valerian A.D. 258. Rebelling against Gallienus, he assured, with his colleague Victorinus, independent sovereignty, but was slain by his own soldiers in the revolt of his general Lœlianus A.D. 267. Victorinus reigned alone for a short time after the death of Postumus and Lœlianus then he also was assassinated in the same year. Marius who by his bravery had risen from obscurity to a high position in the army next received the acclamations of the soldiers, only to share the same fate a few days after. Tetricus was prevailed

upon by the empress Victorina, to whom he was related, to succeed Marius in the government of Gaul and Spain, giving his son Caius Pesuvius Tetricus the title of Cæsar A.D. 267. He maintained his position until the commencement of the reign of Aurelian, but suspecting the fidelity of his army, always ready to revolt, he sent to that emperor requesting assistance, at the same time offering to surrender the provinces. Aurelian accordingly marched into Gaul with the object of attacking the army of Tetricus whose soldiers who on the defection of their chief were compelled to submit to the conqueror: A captive in name Tetricus was made governor of Lucania a short time after. Carausius, said to have been a Menapian pilot, was appointed by the emperor Maximilian for his skill, and bravery to the command of the fleet assembled at Boulogne to repress the piratical practices of the Franks, but ambition prompted him to assume the Imperial purple in Britain: defeating the Roman fleet he contrained Diocletian and Maximilian to acknowledge his title. Although he ruled with a firm hand his servants became disaffected and he was put to death by his chief minister Allectus who was proclaimed Emperor by the legionaries; after a short reign of three years the usurper was defeated and slain by the forces of Constantine Cæsar under the pretorian prefect Asdepiadotus, who effected a landing in the West, A.D. 293; by this victory Britain was again united to the Roman empire. From the evidence of coins of Tetricus, Carausius, Allectus, and other relics found in the Roman boat recently discovered on the site for the new county hall at Westminster competent authorities assign its age to the close of the third century, so that probably the vessel belonged to the navy of Carausius and Allectus.

WM. COZENS,
Benson.

FOOTNOTE.—These coins are commonly called “third brass” and were discovered between 1864-72, being picked up in the fields and gardens in the neighbourhood of Dorchester, many in a field called “Meadside Piece.” Two of the coins mentioned above viz. Postumas with a galley on the reverse, and Carausius were found in a rubbish heap at Dorchester 1912.

DISCOVERY OF ROMAN COINS IN HAMPSHIRE.—Near Canon's Heath at Kingsclere, some Roman coins have recently been found, and they range in date from A.D. 275—375.

FAMILY BIBLES.—This source of family history and pedigree has been too long overlooked. We should be very glad if our readers will send us extracts from family Bibles, and in return we can assist them with additional information about their ancestors. All pedigrees are worth preserving.



Notes and Queries

RELATING TO BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON.

Communications are invited upon all subjects of Antiquarian or Architectural interest relating to the three counties. Correspondents are requested to write as plainly as possible, on one side of the paper only, with REPLIES, QUERIES and NOTES on SEPARATE SHEETS, and the name of the writer appended to each communication.

Notes.

THE Editors express the earnest hope that a larger number of correspondents will avail themselves of this column, and thus help those responsible for the publication of this journal to extend its usefulness.

WE have received the following courteous letter from Mr. Madan, Librarian, Bodleian Library, Oxford, in reply to an enquiry :—

Bodleian Library,
Oxford,

18th June, 1912.

Mr. Madan desires me to say that the number of MSS. in the Bodleian relating to Berks, Bucks and Oxon is so very large that it would be impossible to compile a list for you in ordinary Library time, but that such a list could be made by some one at so much per hour. Or if Mr. Cope would like to search our collections himself, Mr. Madan would most willingly advise and assist him.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) S. GIBSON.

Perhaps some Oxfordshire reader will be so kind as to help us by making the above list.

THE REINDEER INN, BANBURY.—Recently the "Daily Mail" informed its readers that the "Globe Room" attached to this old inn has lately been sold for removal to America. The room has already been taken down and re-erected at an upholsterer's and decorator's premises in London, and we lately availed ourselves of an opportunity to see it. The room is said to be one of the finest specimens of Jacobean architecture in England; it is oakpanelled and the following are its measurements: height 11 feet 6 inches, length 22 feet, width 16 feet exclusive of the fine stone mullioned "bay window," which is 3 feet 9 inches deep and 13 feet wide; the window sill is 3 feet from the floor. The window with the two doors on right and left of it make one side of the room. Above this window, on the outside was the date 1637, while the inn itself can be traced back as early as 1564. Over and above the old oak panelling the room is also celebrated for its ceiling, which as a writer in the "Banbury Guardian" states, is ornamented by a "continuous raised band which forms a series of geometrical "figures, the spaces within and between, which are also ornamented and which "forms four circles, one over each quarter of the room. Within each circle is a "square panel, enclosing scroll work ornament, different in each. A link in the "shape of the figure 8 connects each circle and also with a short band unites "each of the contained square panels, and each link bears a floriated ornament. The connecting bands of the enclosed panels divide each circle into

"four segments, which are filled with a floriated design each carrying two small figures like mermaids. This is the main design and it is carried by repetition of parts of it, to each of the walls and into the recess of the window." It may interest readers of this Journal to know that the South Kensington Museum possesses a model of this ceiling. We also saw the double barrelled pistol which was discovered during the removal of the room. Along the rib between the two barrels is the following inscription. "Presented to Dick Turpin at the White Bear Inn, Drury Lane, February 7, 1735." The thought of the removal of this old building leads us to mention a subject which is now very much before archæologists, that is, should the removal of such houses be allowed. Recently H.M.'s Government have been in correspondence with the British Ambassadors and Ministers accredited to various foreign countries to obtain information on the subject of the preservation of ancient monuments, etc., abroad. The replies have lately been published as a Parliamentary Paper. In our next number we propose to give a "resume" of it, as also to draw attention to the proposed legislation on the preservation of old buildings, etc., now before both Houses of Parliament.

SALE OF BOVENEY COURT.—Landed properties at the present time are truly changing hands "apace." Large landed estates are being divided: it is indeed a time of "New men and old acres." Recently Boveney Court, in Buckinghamshire, hard by to Eton, was put up to public auction, but failed to obtain a purchaser. This property has an interesting history. At the time of the Domesday Survey it was held by the King. Two centuries later the estate had passed into the possession of a family called, by the place of their residence, de Boveney. For we find that in the year 1218 there was a certain William de Boveney, who acquired a mill at Eton from one Jurinda, the widow of Walter de Windsor. Later in the same century Boveney was owned by Richard, Earl of Cornwall, founder of Burnham Abbey, who endowed the Abbey with this property. At the dissolution of the Religious Houses it reverted to the crown.

LOCAL ANTIQUITIES.—Although much has been done to bring to light antiquities, there remains more yet that may be done and very few counties have been systematically explored. Berkshire histories and local literature if all collected into one library would not require a very large one to contain it. All writers go back for a foundation to Domesday and Lysons "Berks," adding a few details from Dugdale's *Monasticon*, but so far no accurate county history has appeared. The Victorian History of Berkshire aims at this; but it will not fulfil the ideal unless local people interest themselves in the production of the volumes due to appear. Perhaps in a large work it is impossible to write fully, only the outline details can be given and all picturesque writing is necessarily excluded. Many years ago I began a catalogue of Berkshire books, but circumstances prevented its continuation; such a catalogue ought to be compiled, this our readers can help with, if they will send lists of such books, lists of local writers with short biographies of each, of the latter many writers will be found both in early history and modern times. We are glad to say that the Victorian County History have in the Press a fresh volume on Berkshire, and that others will shortly appear, so that anyone possessing old manorial records who will be kind enough to send us the descriptions of their contents will not be too late to be included in these volumes.

Queries.

HAVE the following pedigrees of old Berkshire families ever been worked out :—Tull, Iremonger, Curtis, Pocock, Brookes, Pottinger ?—A.B., c/o Cope, Finchampstead Place, Berks.

HEADSTONES IN CHURCHYARDS.—When were these first used ? I have never seen one older than the time of Charles II., and should be glad to know which are the oldest headstones extant in Berkshire. Perhaps some readers will kindly send locality and name and date.

THE NINE MILE RIDE.—Why is this road so named and when was the present road made ?—X.Y.Z., c/o Cope, Finchampstead, Berks.

WANTED the arms and crest of the Haines or Haynes family, of Northamptonshire. This family was resident there in 1700.—Rev. W. EYRE, Swarraton Rectory, Hants.

PARISH DOCTORS.—How was the system of parish doctors managed in the 16th and 17th centuries ? There was some system is evident, the fixed fee seems to have been £5 per annum, and the country mapped out into districts which curiously correspond with the villages where to the present day we find resident doctors. Any information on this subject will be of interest.—E. E. COPE, Finchampstead, Berks.

BERKSHIRE BELLFOUNDERS.—We know that at Cholsey there was a bell foundry and also in Reading. Were there any other foundries, and what was the maker's mark by which the bells can be distinguished ?—E. E. COPE.

Rebiews.**JOURNAL OF BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.**

We have recently received the March number of the Journal of the British Archæological Association and note with interest an account of Bredon Church, Worestershire, by C. E. Keyser, F.S.A., who besides being President of our Berks Archæological Society is also President of the British Archæological Society. This article is beautifully illustrated with both exterior and interior views of the church, and the letter press like all our President's descriptions of churches, is brimful of interest.

Antiquaries interested in London will find the papers on Canonbury Tower and the Priory of Austin Friars well worth reading. These two articles are accompanied by illustrations.

FREDERICK OF FREDERICK PLACE, LONDON: by Mrs. Suckling.
(Wm. Pollard & Co., Exeter).

We have also received an account of the family of Frederick, of Frederick Place, Old Jewry, London and of Bampton, Oxon. It is written by Mrs. Suckling, of Highwoods, Romsey, Hants. This lady is a well-known Hampshire antiquary, a most active member of the Hampshire Field Club. In our next number we shall review her work, only want of space precludes us from doing so now.

Also we are obliged to hold over till the next number "The recently published transaction of the Newbury District Field Club," ably edited by Mr. Walter Money, F.S.A., published by Blacket, Turner and Co., Newbury.



Proceedings of Societies.

BERKS ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The Annual Meeting was held in the Abbey Gateway, on Friday, April 19th. The President, Mr. C. E. Keyser, F.S.A., presided; there was a large attendance of members. The Secretary presented the Annual Report, which we print elsewhere in this copy of the journal; but desire to draw the attention of both members of the Berks Archæological Society and readers of this journal to the following statement:—“The Society would like to record some work of excavation undertaken by the Society or transcription of ancient monastic charters or documents, but such undertakings required expenditure of time and money, and unless they could find members, who had sufficient leisure to bestow upon such work . . . and unless the Society could largely increase its membership, or double its subscriptions, it was impossible to see how such work could be attempted. Again, we wish to bring to the notice of our readers a scheme placed before the Society a year ago by the Secretary for establishing local committees in Windsor and other centres within the county; so far nothing has been done, but it is much to be hoped that before the next annual meeting a move in this direction will have been made. The Hon. Treasurer's Report is printed on page 44. The various officers were re-elected for the ensuing year, while the following gentlemen were placed on the Committee: Messrs. S. G. Collier, E. Macartney, A. W. Sutton, and Mr. J. Hautenville Cope, the latter in place of the Rev. B. C. Littlewood, deceased. The President drew attention to the small number of members belonging to the Society, viz., 78 gentlemen and 60 ladies; and also stated that other similar societies possessed a much larger membership, e.g., the Gloucester, which numbered over 500 subscribers, and expressed an earnest hope that each member would do their very utmost to obtain fresh subscribers, he also informed the meeting that a “Two-day Excursion” to Gloucester had been arranged for the 14th and 15th of June, while later in the year they hoped to visit the Churches in the vicinity of Didcot, and to have an “Half-day Excursion” to Dorchester and Nuneham. This concluded the business, after which Mr. Macartney gave a lecture on “Old Gardens,” illustrated by lantern slides.

NEWBURY DISTRICT FIELD CLUB.—ANNUAL MEETING.—The members of this Club held their 42nd Annual Meeting on 31st May, the chair being taken by the President (Hon. A. E. Gathorne Hardy), also present were Mr. C. E. Keyser, F.S.A., Mr. Walter Money, F.S.A., the Rev. R. Bruce Dickson, Mr. A. E. O. Slocock, Mr. W. H. Belcher, Mr. J. T. Strange, Mr. G. J. Watts (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer), Mr. W. J. Blacket, Mr. W. E. Lewendon, Mr. Richard Hickman, Mr. Frank Comyns, Mr. H. Peake, Mr. E. Sharwood Smith, &c.

The minutes of the last annual meeting having been read, the President addressed the members on the events of the year, remarking that they owed a debt of gratitude to Mr. Walter Money for the splendid manner in which he

had edited their last volume of Transactions, also to Mr. Keyser for his admirable articles therein. As regards the excursions for the coming season, he thought they might spend a very happy and instructive day at Clayden, in Buckinghamshire, where his friend Sir Harry Verney would be delighted to receive and entertain them.

Mr. Keyser supplemented the President's remarks by giving a *résumé* of last year's excursions, and invited the Newbury Field Club to join the Berkshire Archæological Society in a two-day excursion to Gloucester and Tewkesbury.

Mr. Watts then presented the financial statement. Commencing with a balance in hand of £56 5s. 6d., the receipts amounted to £82 16s. 3d.; and expenditure to £42 14s., leaving a balance in hand of £40 2s. 3d. The statement was adopted.

The President was unanimously re-elected, and briefly returned thanks.

The Vice-Presidents were all re-elected, and the General and Central Committees were severally re-appointed.

Mr. Watts was re-elected Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, attention being drawn to the admirable arrangements he had made for the various excursions.

Afterwards the members, joined by a number of ladies, partook of tea, and at its conclusion a lecture on "Low Forms of Animal Life" was delivered by Mr. Alan Gardiner, B.Sc.

BERKSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—EXCURSION TO GLOUCESTER, TEWKESBURY, AND DEERHURST.—Last year, for the first time in its history, the Society undertook a two days' excursion to Wells, and finding the venture such a success, it was determined to make such another expedition this year. On the 14th June a party consisting of nearly 60 archæologists—ladies and gentlemen—members of the Berks Archæological Society and the Newbury Field Club, assembled at Reading Station at 9.35 a.m. and proceeded by train to Gloucester, part of the journey being through the beautiful district, known as the "Golden Valley." Gloucester being reached about mid-day, the party proceeded to the "Bell Hotel," which had been chosen as the local headquarters of the Society, where luncheon was served. The "Bell Hotel" has existed for several generations, and two men—whose parents have kept this hotel—have left behind them names illustrious in the ecclesiastical history of our land. The one was George Whitefield, whose parents in the early part of the 18th century were the landlords. George, as a boy, was educated at the local Grammar School of St. Mary de Crypt, later he proceeded to Oxford as a servitor of Pembroke College. At Oxford he came under the influence of John Wesley, and was admitted a member of the Methodist Society. In 1736, at the age of 21, he was ordained deacon by Dr. Benson, Bishop of Gloucester. At first he worked in London, but about a year later he quitted England for one of the American colonies, Georgia. He died at Newburyport, U.S.A., in 1770, and is buried in the Presbyterian Church there, though his name is perpetuated in English Nonconformity by the Whitfield Tabernacle, London, which contains the grave of Toplady, author of "Rock of Ages." Another divine, also the son of an innkeeper, rose to the high office of a Bishop of the English Church, Henry Philpotts, who as Bishop of Exeter, "Henry of Exeter" as his contemporaries styled him, is so well known in connection with the Gorham Judgment. In the afternoon the party visited the Cathedral, where they were met by the Dean, the Very Rev. H. D. Spence-Jones, D.D., who gave a most interesting address on its history and architecture, and conducted the Archæologists through the nave, south

transept, choir, lady chapel, and the crypt, pointing out the various items of interest. After seeing the Cathedral a move was made to the Church of Saint Nicholas, where the City Librarian, Mr. Roland Austin, an old Reading friend, received the excursionists; going from thence to St. Mary de Crypt, the Rector gave a short description of this interesting church. The next item on the programme was tea at the Bishop's palace, where Bishop Gibson gave everyone a most hearty welcome. After tea the Bishop gave an address on the history of this Episcopal residence, which took the place of the former palace, which in its turn had in pre-reformation times served as the "Abbot's lodging." This latter house was pulled down in the last century and in its place the present one was erected; the first Bishop to inhabit it was Dr. Ellicot, who was Bishop of the united Sees of Gloucester and Bristol from 1863 to 1905. His Lordship called attention to the pictures in the hall of former occupants of the "See," and gave an account of each of the bishops. After this the party divided into two sections, one under the guidance of Mr. Keyser went to the Church of St. Mary Magdelene at Wootton; the other, accompanied by the Bishop, to the chapter-house, that historic building in which William the Conqueror convened that famous assembly to hear him give the order for the preparation of the "Doomsday Survey." Then the cloisters were next seen with their wonderful "fan tracery" roof, and the "carels," which still exist in the south cloister, these being little chambers in each of which a monk sat to read, etc., resting his book upon a stone shelf. The cloisters are glazed with coloured glass; then the old-time lavatory in the north cloister was shown, where the monks washed before entering the refectory for meals, and the cupboard or aumbry where the towels were kept. One peculiarity of these cloisters is that they are on the north side of the Cathedral, whereas in the majority of English religious houses they were on the southern side. Later in the evening the Society, on the invitation of the Mayor, were received at the Guildhall by the Mayor, the Deputy Mayoress, the City Sheriff, and the Town Clerk, the latter gentleman kindly exhibited and explained some of the city documents and the Corporation plate, having other items, four handsome maces and two State swords. But perhaps the most interesting event of the evening was the presentation of a silver centrepiece and an illuminated address, the work of Mr. Greenslade, of Reading, to Mr. Ditchfield, and a diamond pendant to Mrs. Ditchfield, both of these having been subscribed for by members of the Society. The President (Mr. Keyser) in making the presentation to Mr. Ditchfield referred to the strenuous work he had given to the Society for a quarter of a century, and also said that the flourishing position it now held was entirely owing to their Secretary's untiring labour on its behalf. The text of the address is as follows;—"To the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, M.A., F.S.A., F.S.L. We the undersigned desire in a small way to express our hearty recognition and appreciation of the eminent services you have rendered to the cause of archæology in general and more especially to the Berkshire Archæological Society for which you have been for a quarter of a century the Hon. Secretary, and to which you have ungrudgingly devoted so much of your valuable time. To your energy and admirable organisation is mainly due the continued success and even the existence of the Society, and we all have a most pleasurable recollection of the many instructive lectures and interesting excursions which you have arranged. We ask you, therefore, to accept this piece of plate for yourself and a small present of jewellery for Mrs. Ditchfield as a mark of our esteem and affection, and we trust you may both be spared with health and strength to continue for many years your useful career in life." Then follow the names of the 70 members who were subscribers.

Next morning (15th) an early start was made by steamer for Deerhurst and Tewkesbury. Proceeding up the Severn the Berkshire Antiquaries landed at Deerhurst and walked to the church said to be the oldest ecclesiastical monument in Gloucestershire. Founded as an Abbey towards the close of the 8th century we learn from Kemble's Codex that in the year 804 Ethelric the Earldoman of the Hwiccian district of Mercia made an endowment of land to the Abbey. Later when the Confessor founded Westminster Abbey he bestowed on it half of the estates of Deerhurst, at the same time he granted the latter house to St. Denis, near Paris, it thus became an "Alien Priory." Owing to the wars with France, the alien priories, because they sent money to the parent houses in France were accused of aiding the enemies of England and were "suppressed" or made "denizen" which last was the case with Deerhurst, but ere long it became by grant of Henry VI. the property of his foundation of Eton College, but in the next reign it was taken by Edward IV. from Eton and given to Tewkesbury. At the Dissolution the Priory was granted to George Throgmorton and his heirs, though the church was permitted to remain as a place of worship for the villagers, it thus became a parish church. The President and the Vicar conducted the visitors round the building and drew attention to the tower part of which belongs to the Saxon period. Inside the building the font was greatly admired the bowl of which is tub shaped and ornamented with "an intricate pattern of spiral lines;" it is believed to be coeval with the date of the founding of the Abbey. The two brasses, both dated 1400, the one to Sir John Cassey, Chief Baron of the Exchequer and the other to his wife, Lady Alice, were also the object of special interest as also was the stone coffin discovered in the restoration of 1861. Before leaving, some of the party ascended the tower. The small building quite close to Deerhurst Church and known as "Odda's Chapel" was next visited. This has a curious history, from a stone found in 1675 near the site of this ancient structure, and preserved amongst the Arundelian marbles at Oxford, we learn that the chapel was dedicated by Bishop Ealdred on the 2nd ides (12th April) of the 14th year (1056), of the reign of Edward King of the English. When the Confessor bestowed a portion of the lands of Deerhurst upon Westminster Abbey, Odda's Chapel was included in the Gift. The eastern extremity of the Chapel joins on to an ancient black and white building erected in the early middle ages, probably as the manor house to the Westminster estates which is still inhabited. At the Reformation the Chapel was desecrated and so remains. After the desecration it seems to have been incorporated into Abbot's Court and in the course of years its existence as a place of religion, forgotten. In 1885 on the removal of some plaster round headed windows were found; this led to further investigation with the result of the discovery of the Chapel. Embarking on the steamer the journey was resumed en route to Tewkesbury, when the "Lower Lode" was reached the passengers landed and were ferried across the Severn and thence walked to Tewkesbury by way of the Bloody Meadow the scene of the great battle of the 4th May, 1471, when the Lancastrian army was annihilated. Next on the programme came a visit to Abbey Church, and the Vicar (the Rev. A. T. W. Yerburch) read an interesting paper on the history of the Church, telling of the foundation of the Abbey by two Mercian nobles Odo and Dodo in 715. It was rebuilt in 1087 by Robert de Fitzhamon, who a few years later (1107) received his death wound at the siege of Falaise, whence his body was brought to Tewkesbury for burial. In 1123 the Abbey was consecrated by the Bishop of Worcester, Theulf. From the Fitzhamon family,

the Lordship of Tewkesbury passed to the de Clares, Earls of Hereford and Gloucester, two members of this family were buried in the Abbey. From the de Clares the lordship passed by the marriage of Eleanor de Clare to Hugh Despencer. Then later it was again carried through an heiress to the Beauchamps Earls of Warwick, and from them to Richard Nevill Earl of Warwick and Salisbury, called the King Maker, by his marriage with Ann de Beauchamp, aunt and heiress of Henry de Beauchamp, K.G., last and sixth Earl of the family of de Beauchamps, Earls of Warwick. In 1539 the King's Commissioners seized the Abbey on behalf of Henry VIII. but the patriotism of the inhabitants preserved it from destruction. They purchased it from the town as their parish Church. At the conclusion of the Vicar's interesting paper, the sacristan conducted the party round the church and pointed out the chief objects of interest, such as the handsome windows of the choir, which still retain some of their ancient coloured glass. The windows were the gift of a member of the Despencer family while hard by is the exquisite little chapel which in 1397 was built over the tomb of the founder Robert Fitzhamon. We only wish that space would allow us to describe more fully the other objects of interest in this noble Church, such as the magnificent sepulchres of Sir Guy de Brien or the beautiful Warwick Chapel wherein lie the mortal remains of Richard Beauchamp, first husband of Isabella le Despencer, or the Chantry of the Holy Trinity, the last earthly resting place of Edward Lord Despencer, whose armour-clad figure, erected on the roof of the Chantry, is kneeling and facing the High Altar, as if he was adoring the sacred elements which are being offered there. Only a passing reference can be made to this Altar; it is one of the few remaining pre-reformation Stone Altars in England, and not only this, it is the largest which is still in existence. But a last word must be devoted to the Tudor Cenotaph of John Wakeman last Abbot of the great Benedictine Establishment of Tewkesbury, who in 1539 surrendered his "House" into the hands of Henry VIII. being then made first Bishop of Gloucester.

At the Annual Congress of Archæological Societies, held at the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, the Berkshire Archæological Society was represented by Mr. Garry and the Assistant Editor (Mr. J. H. Cope). Sir Charles Read, President Society of Antiquaries, presided over a large attendance of delegates. The report of the Council for 1911-12 was adopted, from which we learn that there are 43 Societies affiliated to the Union. The report also dealt with the publication, entitled the "Index of Archæological Papers published in 1908," and stated that unless the Index was better supported it would be impossible to continue its publication. Speaking for ourselves, we should greatly regret its discontinuation, as it is of the utmost use for any antiquary to know what papers dealing with various subjects of antiquarian interest are year by year placed by various workers before the general public. So we hope sufficient support will be forthcoming, especially from the various Societies in union with the Congress. The cost of production of the Index is not less than £30. We are glad to notice that the report of the Ancient Earth Works and Fortified Enclosures is meeting with better support than heretofore. Last, but not least, are the paragraphs dealing with the supply of the P.R.O. publications to various public libraries. The Congress has already been in communication with the Prime Minister on this matter, who has replied that he has placed their letter before the Royal Commission now sitting on Public Records. So that it is hoped these publications may be more generally supplied. At the present time we believe that public libraries can obtain them by purchase. And we in conjunction

with all local antiquaries have often regretted that in the Free Library at Reading there is not a complete series of the "Calendars of the Patent and Close Rolls," and have only too often suffered from the absence of these volumes. The balance sheet showed the financial position to be in a satisfactory state, there being a balance in hand of £19 10s. 3d. Other matters dealt with were the report of the Earth Works Committee for 1912, which contained a survey of the work that is now undertaken for their preservation by various local Archæological Societies. Major Freer drew attention to the legislation now before both Houses of Parliament on the subject of the "Protection of Ancient Monuments." After some discussion it was agreed to ask the Government to make a few alterations in the "Bills," but it was most distinctly hoped that these "Bills" would become law. The last item in a lengthy "Agenda" Paper was the proposed excavation of Verulamium and the South Eastern Union of Scientific Societies. From this it was learnt that the proposed excavation could not be carried out till arrangements had been made with the owner of the property regarding the ownership of such objects as might be found. So ended the Congress of 1912, and from the information placed before those who attended it, the impression left on their minds was that during the past year a good deal had been done to forward the study of archæology in the United Kingdom.



WANTED.—OLD ENGLISH ENCAUSTIC TILES, such as have been dug up on sites of Abbeys and Churches, usually with inlaid patterns in yellow.—CAPTAIN C. LINDSAY, 97, Cadogan Gardens, London.

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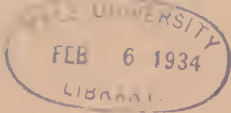
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FENLAND NOTES AND QUERIES.

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DIDCOT CHURCH.



Taunt, Oxford.

FIG. 27.

FROM THE SOUTH EAST.



Taunt, Oxford.

FIG. 28.

INTERIOR LOOKING EAST.



The Berks, Bucks & Oxon Archæological Journal.

Notes on the Churches of Stebenton, Hartwell, Didcot and Hagbourne.

By Charles E. Keyser, M.A., F.S.A.

(Read before the Berks Archæological Society, March 28th, 1912.)

(Continued from page 38.)

A DRIVE of about two miles will bring us to Didcot, a pretty and secluded village, still small, in spite of its proximity to the railway and the junction which bears its name. It has some nice old timber houses, notably the school, and the Parish Church, which is well worth a visit. It formerly went by the name of Dudcote, and an account of it may be found in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1820, Part II. pp. 605 and 606. At that time there were only 27 houses in the parish and a population of about 210. This has now considerably increased, especially during the last ten years. The description of this place in Lysons' *Magna Britannia* occupies only eight lines, though the account in the *Gentleman's Magazine* written some few years later, gives us a little more insight into its history. We learn that the Manor was originally in the hands of the Blount family, and afterwards of the Stonors, who retained it till 1663, when it was sold, and has since passed through several hands. The presentation of the living is vested in the Principal and Fellows of Brasenose College, Oxford, though it formerly belonged to the Priory of Marlow, or rather the nunnery at Little

Marlow. We learn that in 1820, "The air of it is healthy, and the general longevity of its inhabitants no small recommendation in its favour."

The Church (fig. 27) is dedicated to All Saints, though the writer of the article in the *Gentleman's Magazine* considers it was formerly dedicated to St. Michael. It stands on high ground, and now consists of nave and aisles, with turret and spire at the west end of the south aisle, and Chancel. The Church was restored in 1876, and a new north aisle has been added, and other renovations introduced into the fabric. It measures $62\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length, by 42 feet across the nave and aisles. The earliest portion of the structure now remaining is the south arcade of the nave, though the font and a capital preserved in the north aisle are relics of the former Norman Church. The arcade is considered by Mr. Parker in his description in the *Ecclesiastical Topography* to be Early English and early in the style, but it appears to be more like late 13th century work, and may have been erected at the cost of the Abbot whose effigy lies in the south aisle. The Chancel and aisle are of the Decorated period, and in the 15th century some slight alterations and insertions were made, which will be noted during our perambulation of the building.

Let us now, as before, commence our description in the interior of the Chancel (fig. 28).

The east window of three lights of geometrical design dates from about the year 1300, and there are two two-light windows on the north side differing in their design, but probably of the same date. The two windows on the south side are new, and have taken the place of two 15th century windows which had been inserted here. A string-course runs round the walls, and forms a hoodmould to the containing arches of the several windows. There is a small square recess for the former piscina under the east on south window. On the north wall to the west of the termination of the hoodmould of the west window is a sculptured head of a civilian, and to the west of the east on north window a small head with an iron ring in its mouth. It is suggested that there was a similar head in the south wall, and that at certain times a veil was stretched across the Chancel and fastened by hooks to the ring in the head on either side. There are said to be two heads at Blewbury in this situation. The Chancel roof is poor and not old. The Chancel arch is new, but the responds are the original supports to the former decorated arch. They are semi-octagonal in plan with rather late capitals.

On the north side of the nave near the east end (fig. 29) are the steps to the roodloft with lower and upper four-centred arched doorway of late 15th century date. Above this has been inserted a very good two-light decorated window with wide deeply splayed containing arch. This now opens into the north aisle, but was formerly in the east wall of the nave above the Chancel arch. On south side of nave is one plain oblong blocked clerestory window. The nave roof is old, low pitched with tie beams and squat king posts of 15th century date. The west window is also an insertion of this period, of three lights, and a good example of perpendicular work. In the head is some old glass with two small figures, parts of two more, and some other fragments. The two principal figures represent female saints. One has a white dress, yellow cloak, and long golden hair; the other has a yellow robe. Both have the nimbus, and can no doubt be identified. In the north-east corner of the north aisle is preserved a Norman capital with the scalloped ornament, a relic of the former Church. The north aisle with an arcade of three arches to the nave is new, and is intended to correspond with the arcade on the south side. This with three low arches is somewhat peculiar, and there may be some difference of opinion as to its date. The arches have two plain chamfered ribs. The east respond (fig. 30) has a slender engaged shaft and curious capital divided into six steps of rather clumsy design, and with plain semi-octagonal abacus. The lower part has three semi-circular bands, and rests on a semi-octagonal base. The east column is composed of four engaged shafts with fillet band down each angle, and well-moulded capital, the design being very good. The west column is octagonal with large and rather clumsy capital, while the west respond has a shaft with fillet band down it, and capital of similar design to the eastern one. With the exception of the eastern column, the design is unusual, and suggests some renovation of the original work. The east window of the aisle is of three lights segmental headed of the decorated period. It has the half-round on the containing arch and down the jambs. On the south side near the east end is another three-light segmental headed window of the same date with excellent tracery and triangular headed hoodmould having a groove round the head, and a pointed moulding down the jambs terminating on stops. In the south-east corner is a small bracket for an image, and in the south wall the canopied arch with nice fringe for the piscina, the basin having been destroyed. To the west of the south doorway is another two-light window with flamboyant tracery and the half-round

moulding on the hoodmould. The font (fig. 31), which stands by the western column of the south nave arcade, is large and low tub shaped, with plain bowl, and a band round the lower part. It is of Norman date and a relic of the earlier Church. Against the south wall near the west end of the aisle is now placed the full sized and very fine effigy of a Bishop or Abbot (fig. 32). This was found many years ago face downwards and in three pieces, forming part of the old Churchyard path, and has fortunately been preserved and brought into the Church. It is referred to by the writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, having then (in 1820) been recently discovered. It is in freestone, and represents a Bishop or Abbot in full vestments with mitre on his head, and a mutilated canopy above him. He appears to be holding a crozier with the head broken off in the left hand, and to be giving the Benediction with the right. His feet rest on a pedestal with some object not now discernible below. There have been various conjectures as to whom this effigy represents. In the first place, Is it a Bishop or Abbot? It is certainly of late 13th century date, and if it is a monumental effigy probably represents a benefactor to the Church, and one who was responsible for the building of some portion of the decorated work. There is a tradition, accepted by Parker in the *Ecclesiastical Topography*, that it represents the first mitred Abbot of Abingdon, and this has been followed by other writers. This would be Richard de Henderd, or Hendred, who first assumed the mitre in 1268 and died in 1272. But why should he have been buried here in a Church with which neither he nor the Abbey was connected? The conjecture of the writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine* seems much more reliable. After relating the discovery of the figure he states that a certain Ralph de Dudecote was the third Abbot of Dorchester Abbey in Oxfordshire, and then adds: "Now it is impossible without incurring the censure of a laugh, with which these inquiries are generally attended, to suppose that the above Ralph of Dudecote might be interred in the place of his nativity, and his monument, long held in veneration, was only removed when its decay suggested it, at the time when the Church was new seated, from whence the materials of the good Abbot's monument might with no great impropriety fill up, as far as it went, the Churchway." Abbot Ralph de Dudecote was Abbot in 1290 and died in 1293-4, and this date would very well accord with that of the effigy. The argument seems also to be good, and one may therefore accept it as the most probable solution as to the identity of the figure.

The turret at the west end of the aisle rests on massive timber frame work, which is partly old, and probably of 15th century date.

The south doorway within a modern (fig. 33) porch is nice late decorated with two recessed orders, the outer with the quarter round the inner with a groove to the arch and jambs to the ground. The walls of the south aisle and west end of the nave are still coated with the old roughcast. The turret and slender spire are covered with wooden shingles, but are not old. To the west window on south side of south aisle is an undercut hoodmould with termination on head on west side. The hoodmould of the east on south side (fig. 34) window terminates on the head of a man on east, and on west (fig. 35) on a dragon or bird with long tail and a bone or some other object in its mouth. The terminations of the hoodmould of the east window are cut away to make room for tablets. There are angle buttresses at the east end of the Chancel. The east window (fig. 36) has a plain hoodmould. Those on north of Chancel (fig. 37) have the usual decorated hoodmould. The west window (fig. 38) has an undercut label. There are low buttresses at the west angles. To the south of the Church there is a noble yew tree, 20ft. 6ins. in girth, three feet from the ground. There is also part of the shaft of a Cross by the south doorway. On a tablet on the east wall of the south aisle is the following inscription :—

Neare this place lyeth
Mervall y^e daughter of
Francis Bichopton of
Burnells Broome in the
Countie of Warw Gent
The dearly wife of Ed
ward Sawyer of this Pa
rish to whome shee bare
4 sonnes & 4 daughters
which said Edwa to the
Memorie of his most love-
inge wife with teares
erected this monement
She departed this life
the 22 of April 1641
being of the age of 67 ye
The said Edward died y
ano D 16

(To be continued.)

Notes on a Sanctuary Knocker at St. Nicholas' Church, Gloucester.

On the door of the Church of St. Nicholas' Church is still preserved one of the so-called sanctuary knockers, of which only a few now remain in this country. In a paper on this subject by Miss Bagnall-Oakley, published in the Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society, Vol. XIV., p. 131, illustrations of the knockers at Durham Cathedral, All Saints, Pavement, York, Adel, Yorkshire, St. Gregory's, Norwich, and this one at Gloucester are there given. In all these cases are "large" "bronze escutcheons representing the head of a gruesome monster" "with locks flowing and jaws extended, and in some cases the head" "of a man within them. Through the monster's mouth hangs a" "massive ring, which in days gone by served as the Hagoday or" "Sanctuary Knocker, at which when 'offenders did come and" "knocke, streightwaie they were letten in at any time of the" "nyght.'" The interpretation of the example at Gloucester, there given, is however not the one, which seems now to be generally accepted.

Here we have an hexagonal plate, $9\frac{1}{4}$ inches in breadth, each side being $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches, with four cone shaped knobs on each side fixing it into the door. In the centre is the head and part of the body of a large and sinister looking demon, with long flowing hair and ears, bat-shaped wings and hairy forelegs with sharp claws. He holds a large ring $14\frac{5}{8}$ inches in circumference in his mouth, and has on his back the head of an old woman, with her face looking upwards and her extended tongue licking a bunch of grapes hanging above her. In most of the examples the intention seems to have been to portray a subject calculated to terrify and impress the spectator, and here the idea appears to be the punishment meted out to a confirmed inebriate, who is endeavouring to imbibe a final taste of the intoxicating liquor which has led to her ruin.

The escutcheon is made of bronze and with the exception of the ring, which has been added in recent times, is probably of 14th century date.

C. E. KEYSER, M.A., F.S.A.

Sculptured Norman Tympanum at Gloucester.

Inserted in the wall of the garden of the Bishop's Palace at Gloucester, is part of a large stone, which appears to be a portion of the tympanum of a Norman Doorway. In the centre is a circular medallion, with a series of single loops on the border. This encloses a sculpture, exhibiting the head and shoulders of our Lord. He has the cruciform nimbus very clearly portrayed, but the face has been hacked away, though the ears are still discernible. The chest and arms have also been mutilated, and it is difficult to make out the pose of the figure, though the arms seem to be holding something in front of the chest. On the left side is part of a bird probably the Holy Dove, with its beak against the nimbus by the right ear of our Lord. The treatment is unusual, nor can I call to mind any subject at all similar to this. In the Cloisters at Lincoln Cathedral is preserved part of a tympanum with a figure of Christ seated in Majesty, and the Holy Dove within a vesica above Him. At Tarrant Rushton, in Dorsetshire, on the lintel over the south doorway is the Agnus Dei in the centre, and a seated figure giving the benediction on either side, that on the right holds a dove on the right hand. At Bondleigh, in Devonshire, on the tympanum over the south doorway, is the Agnus Dei within a circular cable border in the centre, and a bird probably a dove on either side. The tympanum at Gloucester is not very early, probably about the middle of the twelfth century. There is no record as to where it came from.

C. E. KEYSER, M.A., F.S.A.



The Manorial Descent of Frilsham.

ONE of the first principles which has to be grasped by those who set themselves to trace obscure manorial descents is that they must not limit their research to the borders of a single county. There are cases in which the descent of a manor, especially in early days, can only be ascertained by tracing that of a manor in another and possibly a distant county. The co-existence of the county and the fief, as the result of the feudal system, led to a great cross-division which has always to be borne in mind. The all important *cartæ baronum* of 1166 are the returns of barons' fiefs; they are entered under counties, only because the head (*caput*) of each fief lay in a certain county, and it would be quite wrong to suppose, as is sometimes done, that all the Knight's fees recorded as belonging to the fief lay in that county also.

Thus it is that the evidence for the early descent of Frilsham is found, not in any Berkshire records, but in those of a family which held its lands in Derbyshire and Staffordshire under the great house of Ferrers, Earls of Derby, of whose vast fief a substantial portion lay, locally, in Berkshire. This family was that of Rydeware, and its cartulary describes itself thus:—

Thomas de Rydeware, fiz e heyr Wauter de Rydeware, fit fere cete livre en l'an de Reigne le Roi Edward fiz le bon Rei Edward le secunde, de tus le tenementz quil tint en sa main en Rideware, en Scheyle, en *Fridlesham*, e en Ketelburston e en Rossingthone.

The MS., therefore, was compiled in 1308-9, and in 1316 we find Thomas "Rydewarde" lording it in *Fridlesham*.*

In this cartulary the family transcribed their title-deed to Frilsham, which runs thus in the printed text:—

Comes de Ferrariis omnibus hominibus et amicis suis Francis et Anglicis et nominatim hominibus suis de Berkeschyra Salutem. Sciatis me reddidisse et concessisse Reginaldo de Grey (sic) et heredibus suis Fryddelysham et terram de Ildeslea cum omnibus pertinentiis suis libere et quiete cum alio feodo ubicumque sit, sicut unquam Rogerus Venator et Radulphus filius suus unquam melius tenuerunt et liberius. Testibus Rogero capellano et Willelmo Pantol et Roberto de Piro dapifero et Ricardo de Fishide (sic) et Roberto de Bakepuz (pp. 283-4).

* *Feudal Aids*, I. 49.

Of these four witnesses two held lands in Berkshire, namely, Robert de Fifhide (as the name should be read), who took his name from his holding at Fyfield, and Robert de Bakepuz, of Kingston Bagpuz. And all four are found as tenants of the Earl in the return he made of his Knights in 1166.

But for Reginald de Grey, to whom Frilsham is here restored, we must read Reginald de *Gresley*, who appears in that return as holding of the Earl Ferrers (i.e., of Derby), two Knights' fees formerly held by Ralf "Parvus." He attests various charters granted by the Earl, one, for instance, which is at Hardwick Hall, another among the Gresley charters at Drakelow, and a third among those of the Chandos-Pole family. He had an *alias*, being also known from his Derbyshire Manor of Boylestone as Reginald "de Boilestun"; for it was common then, and indeed later, for a man to abandon the name of his family and adopt that of a manor which he held, or to be known alternatively by two names.* It was as Reginald "de Boilestun" that he was one of the witnesses to an interesting Berkshire charter of Robert de Bachepus, with whom we have already met as a witness to the Frilsham charter.†

We have now to see what was the claim of Reginald de Gresley to Frilsham, and who were Roger "Venator" and Ralf his son, whom our opening charter names as its previous tenants. As the date of this charter must be somewhere about 1166, we have a dark period to explore, if we would go beyond it.

Reginald himself was a member of that very ancient family, the Gresleys of Drakelowe (near Burton-on-Trent), which was also among the Knightly tenants of the house of Ferrers, and which is still represented by Sir Robert Gresley of Drakelowe. But to learn how Frilsham came to him we have to turn to a plea relating to Boylestone, co. Derby, and Draycote-under-Needwood, co. Stafford.‡ From it we discover that these lands came to him with his wife Hawys, daughter of Thomas, their lord, whose brother was Ralf "le Petit," huntsman to the Earl of Derby. Now we have

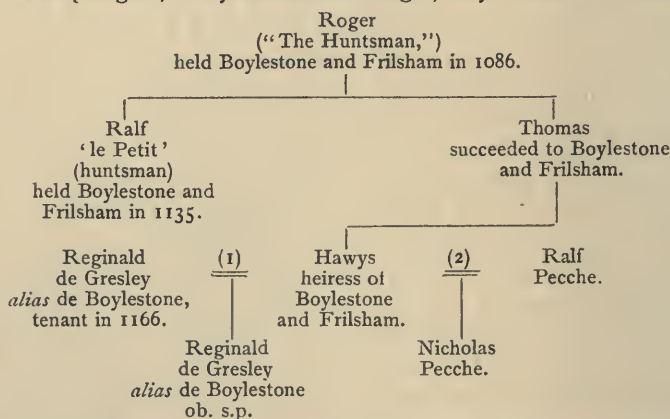
* A striking case is that of the Nottingham merchant of the next century named "Bugge," who, having purchased the Manor of Willoughby on the Wolds, took the name of "de" Willoughby, and founded the Willoughbys of Woollaton.

† A *facsimile* and the printed text of Robert's charter will be found in that valuable work, *Facsimiles of charters in the British Museum*, with notes from the skilled hand of Mr. H. J. Ellis.

‡ *Rydwere cartulary*, p. 257.

seen that Roger the huntsman (*venator*) and Ralf his son had been the previous tenants of Frilsham, and when we turn to Domesday we find that Boylestone in Derbyshire and Frilsham and "Hislalei" in Berkshire were all held of Henry de Ferrers by "Roger." My conclusion, therefore, is that Boylestone (of which Draycote-under-Needwood was an appendage) and Frilsham, with the lands in (East) Ilsley, descended together and are represented by the two knights' fees which Ralf "Parvus" had held in 1135 and which Reginald de Gresley held in 1166.* It should be observed how widely separated the holdings of a single under-tenant might be, for it is little realised how often this was the case.

The pedigree, if my conclusion is right, may be set forth thus:—



The plea mentioned above gives us the second marriage of Hawys and the names of her sons. The elder Reginald, her first husband, must have died not later than 1173, for at Michaelmas, 1174, we find Frilsham in the hands of her second husband, Ralf Pecche, who would hold it in her right.† In 1177 we find the wardship of Reginald's son and heir purchased by this Ralf Pecche, his step-father.‡

This Reginald the younger occurs in 1192 and 1194. On his death, without issue, Frilsham and Boylestone passed to the Pecches,

* *Red Book of the Exchequer*, p. 337.

† "xx s. de Fridlesham terra Rad' Pecc" (Pipe Roll, 20 Hen. II., p. 114). This is one of a group of entries relating apparently to those who had joined Earl Ferrars in rebellion.

‡ Radulfus Pecche redd, comp, de xx marc' et I detravio pro habenda benivolentia regis et terras Reginaldi de Griseleia donec filius ejus habeat etatem (Pipe Roll, 23 Hen. II., p. 48).

as his mother's heirs. These Pecches held, as their inheritance, the Suffolk manor of Kettlebaston, the tenure of which was thus united to that of Frilsham and Boylestone. The Pipe Roll of 1185 speaks under Berkshire of "Hawisa Pecche et Nicholaus filius suus," so that she was then still living. Of this Nicholas, we read in the Rydeware Cartulary (p. 292) "that in the time of King John" he injured his arm at Frilsham and at once went to Dunstable, where he lodged with a certain leech (*medico*), who was to heal (*sanandum*) his arm. The leech applied his remedies (*medicamenta*) to the arm, which only made the wound worse, and the loss of blood warned him that he would die, so he sent to Frilsham for his wife, Alice de Siffrewast, who came to him at Dunstable with his younger brother Ralf, who asked Nicholas to give him some means of support. This bears upon the difficult question of what became of the cadets in the middle ages, when the whole inheritance would descend to the eldest son. In this case Nicholas gave his younger brother a 'virgate'—that is a 'small holding' of some thirty or forty acres—in Frilsham, for which he was to render annually a sorel sparrowhawk worth two shillings. The previous tenant had held by rendering 'customary service' and eight shillings a year. Nicholas having died and been buried in Dunstable Priory, Ralf returned with the widow to Frilsham and took seisin of the land. When he was afterwards slain in Suffolk, another brother, Richard, a parson (*persona*) came and took possession of the holding, in which he was succeeded by his son Geoffrey. Between this Geoffrey and Maud Pecche, the daughter and heir of his uncle Nicholas there was endless litigation for this holding in Frilsham and for their respective rights in Kettlebaston. Apparently his father, the 'parson,' had been given the family living of Kettlebaston by his own father; such livings were very useful as a provision for cadets, which is doubtless the reason of the constant litigation concerning them.

As heiress of her father's land in Derbyshire, Berkshire and Suffolk, this Maud Pecche would naturally be sought after, and her feudal lord, the Earl of Derby, bestowed her as if she was a piece of land on Walter de Rydeware, younger son of a Staffordshire house, which took its name from Rydeware Hampstall, in that county, where it held under the Staffords. He received her "to have to wife with all her inheritance, which he and his heirs by her are to have and to hold for ever."* Maud was a long-lived woman,

* Rydeware Cartulary, p. 279.

and on Walter's death she married, as her second husband, Oliver de Eyncourt, head of the great Lincolnshire house which had its seat at Blankney. We have here the explanation of the entries relating to Frilsham in the Berkshire portion of the *Testa de Neville*. Despite the importance of that volume for Genealogists and Topographers, insufficient use has been made of its contents on account of the confused way in which they are thrown together without dates or explanation. Another difficulty is caused by the eccentricities of its names; Frilsham, for instance, is playfully disguised as "Fride-theyn" and as "Fugleham"! It may be useful to Berkshire Archæologists to explain that the dates of the two surveys in which the tenure of Frilsham is given are 1236 and the winter of 1242-3. In the first (p. 119) Walter de Rydeware is given as the holder; in the second (pp. 109, 121) it is Oliver d'Eyncourt, and his holding is given with exactitude as two-thirds of a knight's fee in Frilsham and East Ilsey (*Estildestl'*).

We have here an excellent illustration of another snare for Archæologists. It might easily be supposed that Walter and Oliver were successively holding Frilsham in their own right; but at that period the husband represented and virtually eclipsed the wife. Indeed by 'the courtesy of England' his right in her land was such that he was entitled, should he survive her, to retain possession of it for life if issue had been born. On the other hand a woman often retained her maiden name after marriage. Maud Peche, whose first husband died about 1241 and her second husband about 1245, enjoyed a long widowhood under her maiden name and earned the gratitude of genealogists by giving, as 'domina de Fridelesham,' to Reading Abbey the whole of the land in Frilsham, called 'la Hyde,' for the weal of her soul and those of Nicholas Pecche, her father, Alice Pecche, her mother, Sir Walter de Rydeware and Sir Oliver Deyncourt, her husbands deceased, Sir Ralf Pecche [her grandfather] and Hawys his wife, Nicholas and John her (own) sons, Alice her daughter, Roger de Rideware [her brother-in-law] and Alice his wife.* Her piety was rewarded in the usual manner by Abbot Robert and the convent, who, in 1270, unanimously made her a partaker of their spiritual benefits and undertook, for the space of her life, to have a special mass celebrated in the Abbey daily for her soul and those of her relatives.†

* Ibid. p. 288.

† Ibid. p. 283.

This land, which was partly built over, she had bought from Nicholas 'le Buteylier,' of Reading, and Juliana his wife (who had bought it from Roger Wylard) for fourteen marcs (£9 6s. 8d.)* In 1256 William de Ferrers, Earl of Derby, granted to Maud for the term of her life, the *dominacio* of her son Roger and his heirs, which possibly means that they were to hold her lands for her. This Roger was grandfather of that Thomas de Rydeware for whom the cartulary was compiled and who, with Margaret his wife in 6 Edward II. (1312-13) settled, by fine, the manor and advowson of Frilsham and the manor and advowson of Kettlebaston on Walter, their son and heir, and Joan his wife and their heirs.†

J HORACE ROUND.

* Ibid. pp. 281-2.

† Ibid. p. 297.

The Church of Blewbury.

APPARENTLY the earliest mention of Blewbury occurs in a grant of land by King Edmund to Aelfric ⁽¹⁾ (probably Bishop of Ramsbury. The date of the original document is A.D. 944, and it confers upon Aelfric one hundred plots of land ("*centum terrae mansas*"). Aelfric in turn presented the land to the Abbey of Abingdon. It is almost impossible to estimate the area included in this grant, for although the description given ⁽²⁾ is extremely minute, the boundary marks are in many cases trees, ponds, and other physical features which have long ago disappeared, the only name which can be unmistakably identified being "Ichenilde wege"—the Icknield way. King Edmund's grant refers to Blewbury in the following words:—"Centum terrae mansas et stilo perhenuv (?) trado, quodam in loco venerabili antiquitus et adhuc cognomine noto, Bleoburg appellato."

(1) "Historia Monasterii de Abingdon." Pub. in Rolls series. Printed from a M.S. of the 13th Century.

(2) "Metae de Bleobyrig" attached to the above grant.

Nothing further has been found concerning Blewbury earlier than the account given in Domesday of the tenure of the land. From this it appears that the King himself held the Manor of Blewbury (Blitberie); previously this had been held by Edward the Confessor, and, that of this Manor, the Church, with $1\frac{1}{4}$ hides, was held by William Belfou, the second and last Bishop of Thetford; the Saxon holder of this part was Alvríc or Aluric. ⁽¹⁾

It would appear, therefore, that a Church existed in Blewbury in pre-Norman times, but of this building little or nothing can now be traced. The earliest portion of the Church now extant is the wall on the north side of the nave. The eastern portion of this has been cut through in later years forming a north aisle, but the western part and a few feet at the extreme east of the nave still remain. At the west end of the north wall is an original window, which, deeply splayed inwards and with a shallow chamfer on the outside, is of a type characteristic of the buildings of the end of the 11th or beginning of the 12th century. The Church as it then existed was probably a rectangular building, of the same length as the present nave, with a small sanctuary on the site of the present arches of the "central tower," with south and north doorways.

In 1091 the tithes and other revenues of the Church were appropriated by St. Osmund to the Capitular body of the Cathedral of Sarum, ⁽²⁾ and the Church, ⁽³⁾ together with Marlborough, became a prebend of that See. ⁽⁴⁾ As the Churches of both Blewbury and Marlborough were held by Belfou, it is very probable that it was he who granted them, with their appurtenances to St. Osmund.

While the original conditions held, the whole of the tithes of Blewbury, as of all other appropriated Churches, was paid to the Capitular body of Sarum. They did not at first form an endowment of any particular stall, but were paid into the "Communa" or

(1) It will be noticed that no land in Blewbury is assigned by "Domesday" to the Abbey of Abingdon.

(2) The dioceses of Ramsbury and Sherbourne were united in 1058, and in 1075 the See was removed to Old Sarum, where Herman, then Bishop, commenced building a Cathedral. In 1078 he was succeeded by St. Osmund as Bishop of Sarum. The See included Berks, Wilts and Dorset.

(3) In early documents the Churches of Blewbury are always mentioned, this doubtless refers to those of Aston Upthorpe and Upton which were probably dependent upon Blewbury. In 1331 H. de Clyf is referred to as priest at Blewbury, Aston and Upton.

(4) Register of St. Osmund (Rolls Series), p. 198. *Carta Osmundi*.

general exchequer of the Chapter. The Parish Church was, therefore, without income, but the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral undertook all parochial responsibilities.

Between 1144 and 1147 the Royal Manor of Blewbury was conferred by Matilda upon the Abbot and Monastery of Reading ⁽¹⁾, and a similar grant was made by Stephen between 1142 and 1148 ⁽²⁾. The grant was confirmed by Henry II. about 1157 ⁽³⁾, and *inter alia* by the Popes Adrian IV. and Alexander III. about 1154 ⁽⁴⁾ and 1164 ⁽⁵⁾ respectively. From this time until the dissolution of the Abbey, the Abbot and Monastery of Reading were the landowners, but this did not include the right of presentation to the Prebend, which was vested in the Dean and Chapter of Sarum ⁽⁶⁾.

The influence of the change of ownership of the Royal Manor seems to have soon made itself felt, for between 1165 and 1190 great alterations were made in the fabric of the Church, alterations which were probably carried out by the Abbey of Reading. The building of Reading Abbey was completed in 1164, and it is possible the artificers employed in this work were used by the Abbey authorities in improving the Churches in the district. There is nothing however to prove this statement and it is equally possible that the enlargements were made by the Dean and Chapter of Sarum to whom the Prebendal Manor—the $1\frac{1}{4}$ hides held by Wm. Belfou—belonged. At any rate, Blewbury, between the dates mentioned, was transformed into a Cruciform Church with a central tower. The tower no longer exists, but the presence of holes for bell-ropes in the vaulting between the tower arches suggests that it was completed and that bells were at some date hung in it. The changes in the Church included the pulling down of the old Sanctuary, the site of which would be indicated with some degree of accuracy by the position of the town piers. These piers are massive and are ornamented at their corners by nook-shafts, with capitals of slightly varying patterns, some of them being of an ordinary stiff-leaf pattern, and others with the ends of the leaf

(1) British Museum. Add. MS. 19577, 19579 } The dates given are those in
 (2) " " " " 19581 } the Index to the Brit. Mus.
 (3) " " " " 19581 } Manuscripts, in the Reading
 Free Library.

(4) Cartulary of Reading Abbey. MS. in Reading Free Library.

(5) " " " " " " " " " "

(6) "The Canons receive institution from the Bishop, but possession of their Prebends from the Dean with the consent of the Chapter." Register of St. Osmund, R.S., p. 5.

curved over inwards, a form of ornamentation which was largely used in the middle and the latter part of the 12th century. ⁽¹⁾

Eastwards of the central tower was erected the present chancel; its walls are 3ft. 4in. thick; they are supported by thin buttresses of two stages, and perforated by circular headed windows of larger dimensions of those in the older church; one of which windows remains in the north side of the Chancel. Around the Chancel wall, at a height of 6ft. 5in. from the present flooring, ran a boldly moulded string-course, which descended to the lower edge of the sills of the windows. This string-course is almost complete on the north side of the Chancel, and portions remain also on the south side. The Chancel is vaulted with boldly ribbed quadripartite vaulting, and above it is a room, which is lighted by a single circular window in the east wall, visible from the outside of the Church. The room can be entered by a doorway in the north transept, above the tower arch. That the transepts were also built at the same time as the foregoing alterations were made is clear from the structure of the central tower piers, which are finished with nook-shafts on the transept sides of the central tower space. At the end of the twelfth century, therefore, the Church was cruciform with central Tower, Nave, Chancel and North and South Transepts.

In the year 1148, after the death of Gaamerius de Sanford who had held the Prependal Estate, Bishop Jocelin of Sarum made a specified grant of the Prebend of Blewbury and Marlborough to the "Communa" of the resident Canons of Sarum. ⁽²⁾

The rights of the Abbot and Monastery of Reading in regard to Blewbury were entirely of a temporal nature, and as the holders of the Manor they were subject to the usual obligations. Scutage was levied upon them in respect of their property, ⁽³⁾ and they were required to pay tithes. Apparently these were not paid to Sarum for some time after the Manor came into possession of the Abbey, for a demand for them, by Jocelin Bishop of Sarum, dated 1175, exists, in which the Abbot and Monastery of Reading are urged to pay them "*secundum constitutionem generalis concilii*

(1) It is generally known as "Water-leaf." 'In England its vogue was limited to a quarter of a century, 1165-1190.' F. Bond.

(2) Register Osmundi (R.S.), p. 216.

(3) Monachis de Readinges, Blebury, pro Lxj ℥ numero. (Red Book of the Exchequer).

DIDCOT CHURCH.



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading.

Fig. 29.

DOORWAYS TO ROODLOFT.

DIDCOT CHURCH.



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading.

Fig. 30.

EAST RESPOND OF SOUTH NAVE ARCADE.

DIDCOT CHURCH.



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading

Fig. 31.

THE FONT.

DIDCOT CHURCH.



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading.

Fig. 32.

EFFIGY OF AN ABBOT.

DIDCOT CHURCH.



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading.

Fig. 33.

SOUTH DOORWAY.

DIDCOT CHURCH.



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading.

Fig. 34.

EAST WINDOW SOUTH SIDE OF SOUTH AISLE.





Walton Adams & Sons, Reading.

Fig. 35.

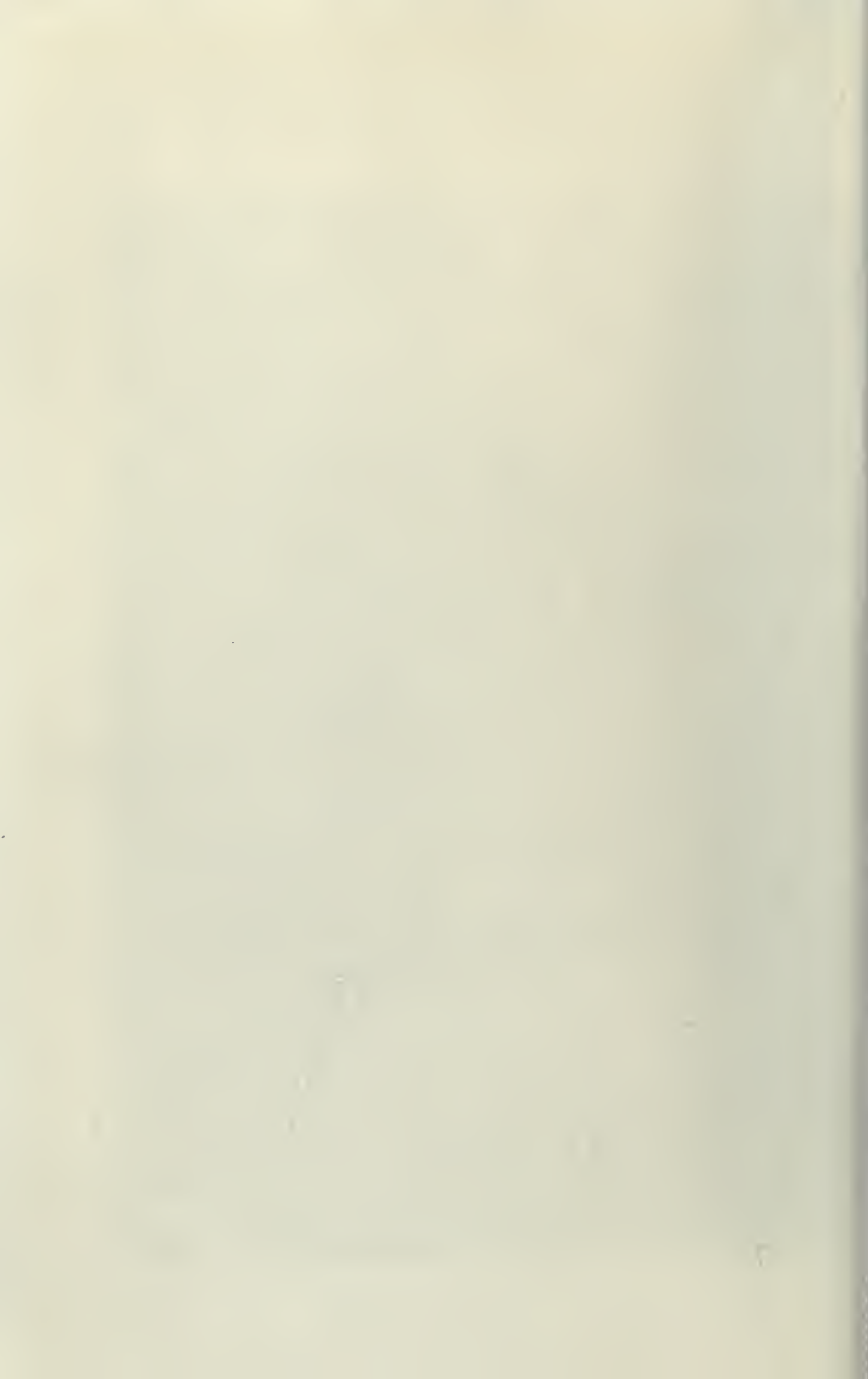
SCULPTURE ON TERMINATION OF HOODMOULD
OF EAST WINDOW, SOUTH SIDE OF SOUTH AISLE.

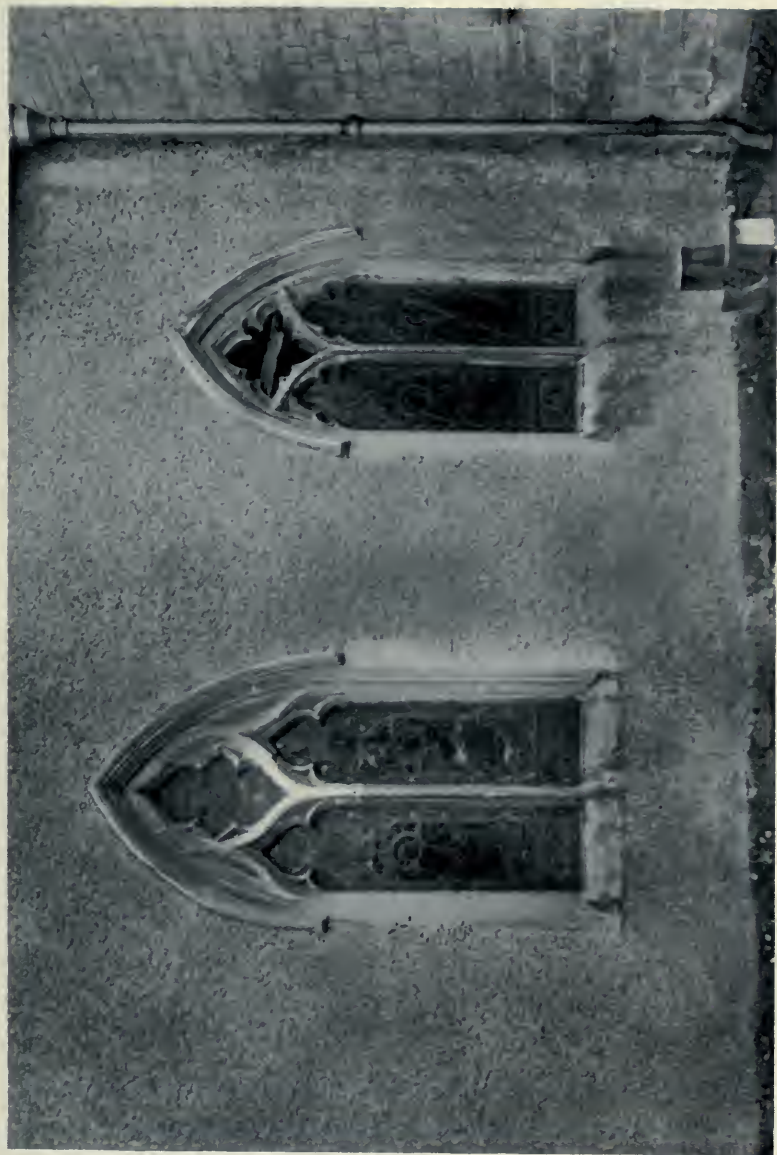


Walter Adams & Sons, Reading.

Fig. 36.

FROM THE EAST.





Walton Adams & Sons, Reading.



DIDCOT CHURCH.



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading.

Fig. 38.

THE WEST WINDOW.

apud Westmonasterium novissime celebrati.”⁽¹⁾ The Council of Westminster referred to was evidently that held on May 18th, 1175.⁽²⁾

We now come to the second enlargement of the Church, which took the form of the addition of a South Aisle. The old south wall of the Nave was cut through, leaving four piers, which were then finished by addition of half circular columns on either side. The style is that of the early thirteenth century, the mouldings of the arches are plain, and the capitals of the half columns somewhat rudely carved. The arcade was obviously made in two portions, the eastern part consist of three bays, each 8ft. 7in. wide, and the western portion of two 27 feet in length, divided into two unequal bays. The division was probably caused by the position of the old south doorway, which doubtless stood at the western end of the eastern part of the arcade. The westernmost arch is supported on the west wall by a boldly cut corbel. Although this South Aisle was built in two portions, these portions were built at almost the same time. The windows in the aisle were probably single lancets, traces of one can still be seen under the plaster in the south wall, and a well known engraving of Blewbury Church shews this window visible from the outside, just to the west of the south porch. The addition of the south aisle necessitated the cutting away of the west wall of the south transept, but apparently this was not done until after the aisle, or at any rate its eastern portion, had been built, for the wall of the transept and that of the aisle are not in perfect alignment. The arch between the aisle and transept is of somewhat unusual form, as in order to carry it into the roof it has been made of the form of a pointed horse-shoe. This portion of the Church is supported by thick buttresses, on one of which can still be traced the remains of a “consecration cross,” inscribed in a circle five inches in diameter.

It has been already stated that Blewbury and Marlborough together formed a Prebend, in the See of Salisbury, i.e., a provision for the maintenance of a Resident Canon at the Cathedral. By the year 1220 part of the title was apparently generally dropped, and in a document dated in this year, the Prior of the Hospital of St. John at Marlborough professes canonical obedience to the Bishop of Salisbury and to the Prebendary of Blewbury.

(1) *Sarum Charters and Documents* No. XLVII. *Carta quad Atbas et Conventus Rading persolvent decimas ecclesiae Sarum.*

(2) *Gervase of Canterbury.* R.S. Vol. I., p. 251, et. seq.

The duties of the Canons of Sarum in the Cathedral Church were at first somewhat onerous, at any rate they were such as to keep them from their prebend for a greater part of the year,⁽¹⁾ and therefore vicars were appointed to look after the spiritual needs of each parish. The appointment to these vicarages was in the hands of the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral, and it would appear from the following, that the vicars were nominated by the Canon holding the Prebend. "But if any vicarage become vacant when the Canon be absent, from any cause, beyond the sea, the Dean of his own authority, *independently of the assent of the Canon himself*, may confer it on any fit cleric that he may please."

The advowson to the Church of Blewbury belonged in the 12th century to the family of Sanford and was given to the Knights Templars by Thomas de Santford by a deed, ⁽²⁾ the date of which I am unable to find. Thomas de Santford was treasurer to King John, ⁽³⁾ and Prebendary of Blewbury. ⁽⁴⁾

J. W. DODGSON, B.Sc.

(1) Register of Osmund. "Nothing may excuse the Canons from being themselves resident in the Church except the work of Schools or the service of the King, who may have one in his Chapel, and the Archbishop one, and the Bishop three. Nevertheless if there be necessity, and this be evident, a Canon for the common benefit of the church or his own prebend may be absent for one third part of a year."

(2) "Ex. cod. Vet. MS. penes Anton Wood, Oxon, fol. 2, b.

(3) Richardson gives 1218. (2) Richardson. Newbury Field Club, 1886-95, p. 63.

(4) In "Carta Jocelini Episcopi Sarum." Register Osmundi, p. 216. A.D. 1148, Govarnerii de Sanford is mentioned as Prebend of Blewbury and Marlborough, and Richardson states that in 1223 Hugh de Sandford held the Prebend.

(*To be continued*).



S. Edward the Confessor.

AN OFFERING OF BAUDEKINS BY THE PRIOR OF
HURLEY AT HIS SHRINE, OCTOBER 13, 1238.

WHEN, in the reign of Richard II., the Hurley Monks besought "the Lord King," that "out of reverence due to Lady Edith, sister of the sainted King Edward the Confessor there [i.e. in Hurley Church] buried . . . it may please the aforesaid Lord King to appropriate to them the Church of Warfield in the diocese of Sarum, of which they are and from ancient times have been the patrons,"—they conjured with a name which was a household word within the walls of Hurley Monastery. The Confessor himself, as we may not doubt, was fond of Hurley ; and that is the reason why this Thames-side Church was selected as the resting place of his sister.

King Edward died at Westminster on January 5th, 1066, just after having completed the re-building of the Abbey Church, originally founded by King Offa on Thorney Island in 785. The King's last days, however, were fast approaching. He had summoned his great men to the dedication of the Church on the festival of the Holy Innocents (December 28th, 1065), the day on which it actually took place ; but on Christmas Eve he was taken ill and breathed his last just twelve days later, eight days after the magnificent dedication ceremony. His body was buried next day before the high altar. Later, the tomb was enclosed in a shrine of gold by William the Conqueror.

At the time of the canonization of S. Edward in the ninety eighth year after his death, his body was translated, on October 13th, 1163, to a higher tomb in Westminster Abbey by Archbishop Thomas a Becket in the presence of Henry II. John Flete remarks at the end of his account of this ceremony—"and thus that virginal body of chastity was honorably placed on its precious bier (*sicque illud vas virgineum castitatis in feretro pretioso honorifice collocatum est*)." Flete was a monk at the Abbey from 1420 to 1465, and is the only mediæval historian that Westminster ever possessed.

And yet, once again, the sacred remains of S. Edward were

removed to an even higher tomb than before, on the occasion of the rebuilding of the church by Henry III., a hundred and six years later ; and, according to Widmore, on this occasion the king himself, his brother, his two sons and some of the chief of the nobility personally helped at the removal of the body, on October 13th, 1269.

In further illustration of the excessive reverence with which King Edward the Confessor's remains were regarded, I subjoin a translation from an extract in the Close Rolls for the year 1238 (*membrane* 5), which is in very intimate connection with Hurley Priory, containing a very interesting order given by Henry III. to his treasurer, H. de Path'.* This Royal Order is dated on August 22nd, 1238, just two years and a half later than the very remarkable and copious charter of rights and privileges which was accorded by him in favour of the Hurley monks on February 27th, 1236, at Woodstock. And it is further interesting to notice that, on January 14th of this very year, the king had been married to Eleanor of Provence entirely through the negotiations and kindly offices of Richard le Gras, at that very time Prior of Hurley, and who was promoted later on in the year 1236 to be Abbot of Evesham, and afterwards to be keeper of the Great Seal. He died on a mission to France on the King's service shortly before his intended consecration to the Bishopric of Lichfield and Coventry.

To sum up, it will be readily seen that in all the existing circumstances Henry III. was very favourably inclined towards Hurley Priory and everything to do with it ; and on Sanson de Eswelle, who had succeeded Richard le Gras as Prior here, being anxious to make an offering of a costly and elaborate hanging for the back of the high altar at Westminster Abbey, out of reverence for S. Edward on the occasion of his Festival, in 1238, he found a ready supporter and promoter of his pious object in the august person of the King. This offering consisted of brocades of gold, still known as "baudekins," which were to be trimmed all round with Arras tapestry specially for the occasion. The extract from the Close Rolls, which has only been lately known to me, runs as follows, with the following heading on the parchment, viz. : "*De baudekinis emendis*" (i.e. concerning the purchase of baudekins) "The King, to H. de Path', his treasurer, greeting. We command you that you purchase four baudekins of gold and cause them to be stitched together (*consui*) so that out of these four cloths (*pannis*) one cloth may be made ; that you also purchase one cloth of Arras [tapestry]

* Hugh de Patteshull had been King's Treasurer from the year 1234.

and cause the cloth made out of the four baudekins to be bordered (*listari*) all round with it and cause that cloth thus made to be suspended at the back of the great cross above the high altar at Westminster so that it may be hung there (*sit ibi appensum*) on the Vigil of the blessed Edward ; that you cause also to be made five hundred tapers against that Festival,—that is to say two hundred large and three hundred smaller ones, and that you provide that a hundred of the larger [tapers] may burn from the ninth hour of the day of the Vigil continuously until the ninth hour of the day of the Festival and that the other hundred tapers may burn from the ninth hour of the day of the Festival until the morning of the next day continuously, and that the three hundred smaller tapers may burn at vespers and at the [other] hours [of prayer] and at the mass ; and that the tapers, the larger and the smaller alike, may be placed around the bier (*feretrum*) as well and as fittingly as they can be arranged ; and on the aforesaid day of the Festival that you offer eight oboles of musk, that is to say four oboles for ourselves and four for the Queen, and that you provide that all these [orders] may be so secretly carried out that no one may [have cause to] consider by whose agency they are done ; and if anyone peradventure should speak of it then let him be told (*dicatur*) that these things are by the gift of the Prior of Hurley (*quod illa sunt de dono prioris de Hurl*). Do you therefore with all diligence carry out this command in the same way as you carried out my last injunction in a matter of like nature as this, lest peradventure it may turn out that we be moved [to take action] against you, which we had rather were not the case (*ne forsitan nos contra vos moveri contingat, quod nollemus*). Witness as above (*i.e.*, the King at Merevale [near Atherstone]), 22nd day of August. By the King himself."

The word *obolus* was sometimes used to designate a coin, and sometimes a weight. In the above Royal Order it refers to a weight.

Musk is a strong perfume obtained from the Musk-deer. It is obtained from a bag behind the deer's navel (Skeat). There is an Inspecimus of Richard II. in the Muniment Room at Westminster Abbey which confirms "a grant of 24 oboles 'de musca reddendos nomine cheuagii' by the hand of the King or Queen, or in their absence the Treasurer, on the high altar—12 on the Deposition [December 28th] and 12 on the Translation [October 13] of S. Edward"—20 April 26 Hen. III. [1242].

F. T. WETHERED.

Hurley Vicarage, Berks,
September, 1912.

Oxford Ladies' Archaeological and Brass Rubbing Society.

YEAR 1911-12.

President :

MISS SWANN, Walton Manor.

Committee :

President.....	MISS SWANN.
Hon. Treasurer	MISS LUCY SWANN.
Hon. Librarian	MRS. WHITMARSH.
Hon. Secretaries	MISS STONE.
	MISS K. WARD.
Members of Committee...	MRS. ODGERS.
	MISS GREEN.
	MISS POYNTER.
	MISS SPENCER THOMSON.

50 Members. 2 Honorary Members.

The Society has now completed its 18th year, and there has never been an occasion when it has not had its full number of members, or when there have not been candidates awaiting admission as vacancies have occurred.

The meetings which had been arranged for the early part of 1912 were postponed, owing to the serious illness, and subsequent death, of the Rev. Dr. Whitmarsh. He had, from the foundation of the Society, been a firm friend to it, and the members will sincerely deplore his loss.

One of our honorary members, Lady Verney, has much to the regret of the Society resigned, as she has left Claydon House.

The first meeting of the year took place on November 16th, as the Society's year begins on November 9th. As there were no fresh names proposed for the officers and committee, all those for the previous year were re-elected.

Dr. Henry Bradley gave a learned and instructive Paper on "Some Oxfordshire and Berkshire Place Names," in which he

warned his hearers of the danger of attributing the derivation of names to fanciful origins, instead of studying the exact etymology.

On May 2nd, Alderman Sir Robert Buckell gave a Paper on "Ancient Civic Life and Customs in Oxford." This lecture was felt to be a most appropriate one, in view of the approaching celebration of the Oxford City's Millenary on July 11th. Sir Robert gave a most vivid account of the Oxford Citizens' life, customs, and rights in olden times, and referred to the antagonism which used to subsist to so large an extent between the City and the University, and he spoke with pleasure of the different feeling now existing between the two bodies. This we may say has been largely brought about by Sir Robert's own good offices.

On May 11th, Miss Poynter gave a Paper on "Emblematic Memorials," which she illustrated by many of her own beautiful drawings. The subject was of so wide an interest that a wish was expressed that Miss Poynter would give a continuation of her Paper at some future period.

On June 12th, a large meeting took place at Hannington Hall, when Mr. Larden gave a lecture on a very unusual subject, that of the "Old Inscriptions on Swiss Chalets." Mr. Larden showed a very large collection of photographs which he had himself taken of these. Many of them must have been obtained with considerable difficulty, from their almost inaccessible positions. The Paper was of great interest from both an archæological and philological view.

On June 17th, the Annual Excursion of the Society took place. It was by the steamer "Alaska," to Sutton Courtenay, and although the weather was very wet and unpropitious a very enjoyable afternoon was spent. The party numbering 52, left Oxford at 2 p.m., they had tea on board at Abingdon, and on landing at Sutton walked through the picturesque village to the Parish Church. It had been hoped that the Vicar would have been able to receive the party and give them some history of the Church, but in his unavoidable absence the President pointed out the most noteworthy objects in the building. The architecture of the Church is very mixed. There is some Norman work in the tower. The font is most probably transitional Norman. There is much decorated and perpendicular work and two good altar tombs of the later period. The chancel has several fine oak stalls with misereres. After leaving the Church the party visited one of the old Manor Houses, where by the kind permission of Captain and Mrs. Lindsay they were shown the fine oak timbered hall, the magnificent old oak staircase, the banqueting hall with its

open timber roof and minstrels' gallery, three bedrooms panelled with oak, and the picturesque courtyard. The house is full of archæological and art treasures which have been collected by the present owners. After visiting the house Mrs. Lindsay gave a most courteous invitation to the party to see her very lovely gardens, of which they gladly availed themselves. The next visit was to the Abbey, where, by the kind permission of Colonel Good, the fine old hall, the remains of the chapel, and the solar were visited. The hall was filled with a very large collection of objects of anthropological and ethnological interest from South Africa. The return journey was made by the "Alaska," and Oxford was reached at 8 p.m.

Since writing this Report the Society has heard with the deepest regret of the death of Mr. James Parker, on October 10th. He may be considered as the founder of the O.L.A.B.R.S., for it was formed at his suggestion, the first meeting took place by his invitation at his house in The Turl, Oxford, on November 14th, 1894, and he always continued to be a firm friend to the Society. He attended many of the meetings, read Papers, and constantly joined in the discussions at the meetings and was always most kind in giving advice and valuable information to any of the members who desired to avail themselves of his great archæological knowledge.

Notes and Queries

RELATING TO BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON.

Communications are invited upon all subjects of Antiquarian or Architectural interest relating to the three counties. Correspondents are requested to write as plainly as possible, on one side of the paper only, with REPLIES, QUERIES and NOTES on SEPARATE SHEETS, and the name of the writer appended to each communication.

Notes.

VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY OF BERKSHIRE.—We are glad to be able to state that the third volume will shortly be published, which should be widely read by all those who take an interest in the history of the Royal County. To produce this work a vast amount of research has been made at the Public Record Office and elsewhere, in fact, no stone has been left unturned to obtain information, which will throw light on the manorial history of the county. This

volume will be devoted to the history of the manors within the hundreds of Compton, Faircross, Ripplesmere and Cookham. Already the proofs have been sent to the Editor and Assistant Editor of the "*Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological Journal*" to correct and read through. But where properties have changed owners as frequently as they have always done in Berks, it is no easy matter to follow each successive owner. Few counties are so badly off for Manorial Court Rolls, though in a few instances Manor Courts are still held annually in Berks.

Queries.

FOLIEJOHN PARK.—Can any reader give the origin of this name? What does it mean?

BATTLE OF BRIMPTON.—In the early part of the 19th century owing to the introduction of machinery the labourers throughout the country banded together to destroy all engines and tackle. This led to rioting. There was a great riot in the Brimpton neighbourhood. This event was celebrated in verse under the title of "*The Battle of Brimpton.*" Can any reader give the context?

CLOCKMAKERS IN BERKS.—Were there any makers of "grandfather" clocks in Berks? If so, what were their names; where and when did they live? [Our Correspondent would be most grateful for any information on above query.—EDITORS.] Any replies to above queries to be sent to "X.Y.Z.," c/o Mr. J. H. Cope, Finchampstead Place, Berks.

A CORRESPONDENT asks us, is it correct to place a "p" in such places as "Finchampstead," "Easthampstead," "Sulhampstead," "Hampstead Norris." Which is the older form of spelling? Information desired.

HOBY OF BISHAM.—Wanted any information on the Hoby family, particularly of William, younger brother of Sir Philip Hoby (knighted 1544) Sir Philip had a grant of the Abbey of Bisham in 1552, and of the Manor of Merdon near Winchester about 1550. d. s.p. May, 1558-9, left Bisham to his brother Thomas, and Merdon to his brother William. The latter married Anne, widow of Thomas Sternhold. Her maiden name was Horsmill. Did she leave a son, Philip Hoby, surviving in 1575, since William's son, Giles Hoby, by Alice, daughter of Henry Hadekinson, succeeded to Merdon on his father's death after (apparently) the year 1581? There is no record of William Hoby's burial at Hurley, and should be glad to know where and when he deceased? Also information desired on the first wife of Giles Hoby, said to be "... daughter of ... Paulett of Winchester." Giles' second wife was Anne, daughter of Sir Thomas Clerk, of Avington county Southampton (Clerk of the Signet Office). She died s.p. 1630, and was buried at Hurley beside her husband Giles Hoby, who died 1625. The name of Hoby was introduced again into Hampshire in the 18th century, when William Stanley of Paultons, near Romsey, married Anne, daughter of Philip Hoby of Neath Abbey. She died in September, 1754, aged 84, and was buried in Holy Rood Church, Southampton. Who was Philip Hoby of Neath Abbey? Should be glad to know the connection between the before-named Hobys and Sir Thomas Hoby of Somerley, who married Elizabeth daughter of Sir John Mill of Mottisford Abbey, by his marriage, in 1679, with Margaret, daughter of Thomas Gray of Woolheding.—F. H. SUCKLING, Romsey.

Proceedings of Societies.

BERKSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

EXCURSION TO DIDCOT.—On July 31st the Berkshire Archæological Society in conjunction with the Reading Literary and Scientific Society made a joint expedition to Didcot, East Hagbourne, Blewbury, Upton, Harwell and Steventon.

About forty members and others formed the party. Unfortunately, prior to leaving Reading, a telegram was received from the Secretary, the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, saying that on account of an accident he was unable to be present. His absence was much regretted by all, and all members of the Society have sympathised with him, especially as his broken arm has hindered his literary work.

The Society had never before visited the district included in this excursion, it was therefore a matter for regret that the day did not prove fine enough for the scenery to be appreciated. The President of the Society accompanied the party and explained the various architectural details in connection with the churches. As these churches have been described in a lecture, illustrated with lantern slides, given to the Society by the President last March, and as a portion of this lecture with the illustrations has already appeared in the April and July numbers of this Journal, we consider there is no need to repeat what has already been so ably told.

The first church to be visited was Didcot—or as it was formerly called “Dudcot.” The modern village Didcot New Town is really situated in North Hagbourne. At the church the party received a welcome to the parish from the Rector, Mr. Brown. After going round the church the journey was resumed *en route* to East Hagbourne Church. There are in this parish three roadside crosses, which have given rise to the tradition that Hagbourne was a Sanctuary Place in pre-reformation days. How the tradition arose no one knows, but in those far distant days each church and churchyard was a place of sanctuary. If a person had committed any crime, except treason or sacrilege, and fled to a church or churchyard and confessed his crime to the coroner, the church authorities were bound to provide him with food for forty days, if during that time he took an oath to adjure the Kingdom and would go to such port as he was ordered, and there take ship to depart from the Kingdom. From Hagbourne the party proceeded to Blewbury, where they were met by the Vicar, the Rev. Victor Whitehouse, the author of a short history of this parish, by whom, as well as by Mr. Dodgson, the interesting architectural features of this church were explained. Mr. Dodgson has kindly expanded his notes; his account of both the church and the parish will be found on page 77 of this number of the Journal. We are sorry to say that time would not allow of a visit to “Blewburton Hill,” which on its western side has been cut into a series of terraces rising one above the other. They are considered to be remains of the open field system followed in former days. Some of the excursionists would also have liked to have seen the place, in this parish, on the Berkshire Downs, where tradition says that Birinus, the Apostle of Wessex, first met Cynegils, King of Wessex. This meeting of the Christian Missionary and the heathen ruler led to the latter's baptism and the establishment of Christianity in Wessex. Such a spot must

truly be held in veneration by Christians of any denomination. The festival of St. Birinus in pre-reformation days was observed on December 3rd. At the Reformation his festival was abolished. Leaving the church the excursionists drove to the small inn known as the "Man Loaded with Mischief." Outside the house the inn sign still hangs, on which is depicted a man carrying a woman who holds in one hand a glass of gin, a magpie and a monkey are also depicted. After luncheon a move was made to the little chapel-like church of Upton, so often confused with Ufton in South Berks. The Cluniac Abbey of Bermondsey, in Surrey—the only Cluniac Abbey in England in the technical sense of the word—obtained the appropriation of Upton Church in 1092, by gift from Wynban de Baalun. According to an old water colour sketch made in 1868 the church was in want of repair. In 1885 restoration took place, under the supervision of the late Mr. Stallwood, F.S.A., of Reading, a vice-president of our Berks Archæological Society, when the rough caste was taken off the walls, which were rebuilt and cased with flint. At the same date the chancel of the church was restored by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who bore the cost of this work, under the direction of the late Mr. Christian, the present triple lancet East window was then inserted. Of the Communion plate the chalice and patten are Elizabethan. From here a somewhat lengthy drive through undulating country to Harwell Church, which was restored by Mr. John Hopkins, of Tidmarsh Manor in this county, in memory of his family, who at one time were resident in this parish. The expedition ended with Steventon Church, after which a tour of the village was made. Some of the archæologists inspected the quaint old houses, which have finely carved fireplaces. Others looked at the ancient "Causeway," which is planted with trees on either side of it and runs the entire length of the village street, providing foot passengers with a path high above any floods. The oldest register of Steventon parish is preserved in the collection of Harleian MSS. (No. 2,395) at the British Museum. How it was lost to the parish no one knows. Possibly our readers could enlighten us. But the register could of course be claimed by the Church Authorities, for no original register can be retained anywhere but in the parish to which it belongs, except under an Act of Parliament. Through the kindness of the Vicar the party was invited to tea in the school-room, after which the return journey to Reading was made.

EXPEDITION TO SONNING AND HAMBLEDON.—On Thursday, September 6th, the last expedition of the season took place, when visits were made to the Excavations at Sonning and Hambledon (Bucks). About fifty archæologists comprised the party, and all were very pleased to welcome once again in their midst the genial Secretary of the Society (the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield) after his recent accident.

Arriving at Sonning, C. E. Keyser, Esq., kindly conducted the party to the excavations which are near the church. Sonning, as is well known, was once part of the possessions of the Bishops of Salisbury. The County of Berkshire formed part of that diocese till 1845, when by order of Council our county was placed under the care of the Bishop of Oxford. At Sonning the Bishops had a palace till they exchanged their property here with the Crown for other lands in Dorsetshire, in Queen Elizabeth's reign. Eventually, the Sonning estate passed into private hands and the old palace was demolished, another residence being built on another site. This is the present house known as Holme Park. This estate is now in the market. Earlier in the present year the President of the Berkshire Archæological Society obtained permission to excavate, most generously doing this work at his own cost, for which he well deserves the gratitude

of all antiquaries. So far the foundations of the outer walls have been laid bare, some encaustic tiles have been discovered, as well as some pieces of pottery and coins, which include a Charles II. farthing and a small silver piece of money of the reign of Edward VI. Large quantities of oyster shells have been also dug up and also several clay pipes similar to those found at the excavations at Basing House in Hampshire. Mr. Keyser, in conducting his friends round the excavations, said that there was a tradition that in ancient days a cathedral was here. Anyhow the Bishops of Salisbury had a palace here from early times. Sonning was in the old maps of Berkshire marked as being in Wiltshire, this isolated portion of Wilts extending from the Thames to Wokingham. Part of Sonning parish is over the Thames on the Oxfordshire side. The probable reason that this district was designated as Wilts was because the Cathedral of Salisbury is in that county, and the Bishops of that See liked to consider their riverside palace of Sonning in that county and not in Berkshire. After the Reformation, when the exchange of property with Queen Elizabeth took place and the estate was in private hands, the palace was pulled down and on the foundations of the episcopal residence another house was erected. The family of Rich lived in it, and eventually their mansion was demolished in 1760. At the present time the workmen are employed in following the outside walls. When more has been done, a plan of the foundations will be made. Mr. Llewellyn Treacher, who has such a vast knowledge of this district, gave the visitors the following information. That there was evidence of a regular cathedral establishment at Sonning in very early times. Also there were records of Bishops of Sonning in Saxon times, but no record of the origin of the See. The fact, of there having been then and up to the present a Church, originally probably a Cathedral, with on one side a Deanery and on the other a Bishop's Palace, each with its separate estate, and also at Ruscombe estates belonging to two prebended stalls in the cathedral, points to Sonning having been one of the very first ecclesiastical establishments in the country; but how early it was impossible to say. Mr. Treacher further said that the great house, which was pulled down in 1796, stood on a different site, and he felt certain that the existence of these ruins was not known to the Mr. Palmer of that time, or he would have utilized the large stones for the building of the present house, which was completed in 1801. For taking down the old house the contract was £150; and the following items of expense might interest those present: The carpenters received £15 17s. 5d., the labourers £22 17s. 9d., Mulford for taking off the tiles £7 os. 0d., casualties amounted to £1 os. 11d.; whilst £3 8s. 1d. was paid for beer, meat, etc. Thus the contractor made £99 15s. 10d. by the work. In conclusion Mr. Treacher said that the strip of Wiltshire situated between Sonning and Wokingham, to which allusion had already been made as being the property of the Bishop; but such was not the case, as all the episcopal estates were in Berkshire.

From Sonning to Hambledon is a pleasant drive of some eight miles, through Henley and past Fawley, with its deer park, and Greenlands, the seat of Mr. W. F. D. Smith, M.P. Arriving at Hambledon we were conducted by Mr. Heneage Cocks round the remains of the Roman Villa, which under his directions have been excavated during the present summer. Having made a tour of the Roman remains, the Society was hospitably entertained to tea by Miss Miller, Hon. Sec. of the University Extension Lectures at Henley, at the Phyllis Court Club, so well known to those who attend Henley Regatta. After tea those who liked were invited to wander through the Club gardens, which are very prettily situated on the banks of the Thames, formerly the private residence of Hugh Maire, Esq. Then came the signal for the return to Reading, and so was brought to a close

the last of the summer excursions of the season of 1912, voted by all to be most successful in every way; and hopes were expressed that a future season may bring forward some equally pleasant afternoons.

NOTE.—Florence of Worcester states there were eleven Bishops of Sonning. Bishop Stubbs (*Constitutional History* I., 271) says that the See of Ramsbury had no cathedral but moved about, resting sometimes at Sonning; but was finally joined to Sherborne just before the Conquest. If such was the case, it would account for Florence's statement, which has no doubt given rise to the supposition that there was a Cathedral establishment at Sonning.—EDITORS.

Rebuelus.

THE FAMILY OF FREDERICK, OF FREDERICK PLACE, OLD JEWRY, LONDON, AND OF BAMPTON, OXON. By F. H. SUCKLING. (William Pollard, Exeter, 1911.)

We are always glad to welcome any contribution to the history of the "three counties," consequently we have great pleasure in bringing to the notice of our readers Mrs. Suckling's account of the "Family of Frederick." A work which shews a great deal of original research amongst "wills" and other documents.

The first member of the Frederick family to rise to importance was one Christopher Frederick, who held the appointment of Serjeant Surgeon to the King, James I. The Serjeant Surgeon died in 1623 and was buried in the church of St. Olave's, Old Jewry, in October of that year. In Wheatley's "*London Past and Present*" it is stated that Frederick Place, Old Jewry, derives its name from this member of the medical profession, who at his death left a family of six sons and two daughters. Of these sons, the second Christopher was the progenitor of the Bampton branch of the family. He married Elizabeth Smith of St. Martin's-le-Grand, London, and by her had issue a son John, who emigrated to Barbadoes, where he married Martha Gascoigne, a daughter of another settler. Christopher Frederick eventually returned to England, where he died. His eldest son John settled at Bampton. We find from Mrs. Suckling's account that the Parish Register contains no record of his burial at that place, though all his daughters lie buried there, as well as his maternal aunt Mrs. (Mary) Croft, whose funeral took place at Bampton in 1718. In her will, which is of great interest to students of the history of Oxfordshire, she desires to be buried in the Parish Church of Bampton, "in the Eyle (sic) there called Pope's Eyle (sic) and bequeaths £100 to the Master of Bampton Free School, to be invested at interest, for the purpose of teaching poor boys and girls," and also she leaves to Mr. Thomas Snell, "one of the Vicars of Bampton" £17 to buy a piece of plate for the Communion Table, as well as various legacies to relatives. On the death of the above-mentioned John Frederick, the Bampton Estate passed to his son Gascoigne Frederick, who died in 1780 and is buried there. From him the property passed to his sister, Susanna Frederick, who by her will, dated 1789, bequeathed Bampton to Edward Whitaker, at whose decease in 1798 the manor passed to his son Frederick. He married Susanna Humphrey, daughter of

William Humphrey of "The Holt," Wokingham. Their eldest son Frederick, who had adopted the law as his profession, emigrated to New Zealand, of which Colony he became Attorney General and received the honour of knighthood. In 1863 Sir Frederick Whitaker sold the estate of Bampton. We should like to have seen it stated in this account of the Frederick family from whom, and in what year the property was purchased, and again we should have been glad to learn to whom Sir Frederick Whitaker sold it.

We hope that before long Mrs. Suckling will again publish an account of some other family connected with the "three counties." In these days when landed estates are changing hands, such information about the former owners is of great interest.

* * *

PARISH OF PADWORTH AND ITS INHABITANTS, compiled chiefly from original documents by MARY SHARP. Edited by the Rev. W. O. CLINTON. Printed privately. (Bradley & Son, Reading.) 4/6.

Once more we are delighted to welcome from the pen of the gifted authoress of the history of Ufton Court another contribution to the history of our County, an account of the Parish of Padworth, which is adjacent to Ufton, written by one who has an intimate knowledge of the place she so ably describes. The whole manner in which this work is produced is worthy of great praise. The printing is good, it is well illustrated, contains a well arranged index, and finally it has—what every parish history ought to have, but alas, does not often have—a map of the parish.

On looking through the volume the reader cannot fail to notice the references to original documents, both in public and private collections, which have been consulted to produce the information contained in these pages. All this demonstrates the amount of labour which Miss Sharp has bestowed on her latest volume, and it must rejoice the heart of all true antiquaries that the information laid before the reader is not that culled from works of other authors, and then laid before the public as if it were original sources. The little volume, alas, it is too small, is divided into five chapters, which tells about the parish church and its architecture, the rectors, their curates, churchwardens, and others who have occupied in their own day an important part in the village life of Padworth. The inscriptions on the monuments erected to those who lived in the village in bygone times, and who probably would have been quite forgotten save from such monuments, which recall their memory to those who visit the church. Again in another chapter the reader is introduced to the various families who at one time or another held the manorial rights, the concluding chapter gives the history of the village. It describes the Common Fields, the enclosures and other interesting matters. From the history of Padworth one learns that the parish church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, though the writer says that in the Diocesan archives there is no record of its dedication, and it is not till 1550 that the fact was recorded to which Saint it was dedicated; this is only learnt from the will of a parishioner, who desired to be buried in the Parish Church of St. John the Baptist. Turning to the description of the sacred building, Miss Sharp takes her readers through the various stages of "restoration" which the church has undergone, how at one time the roof of the nave was ceiled; but in these latter days, since a greater feeling of reverence for the past has arisen, it is delightful to learn that the plaster has been removed and the oak beams exposed to view. The form of this roof is a "cradle." The windows have passed through various vicissitudes, and the reader is informed that the South chancel

window had at one time been bricked up, and it was not till the restoration of 1890 that it was re-opened. At the same date the piscina was discovered, though bereft of its basin and sill. A "piscina" was used for receiving the water which the officiating priest poured over hand in the early portion of the "Mass," as he did so he repeated the portion of the 26th Psalm, which begins at the words "Lavabo inter innocentes manus meus," etc. On reference to the Catholic Dictionary, a monumental work containing articles by experts, and to Rock's *Hierugia* (1904), it will be noted that a "piscina" had further uses than the writer of the history of Padworth supposes, viz., as a place to wash the palls, purifiers and corporals; also to receive the bread-crumbs, linen, etc., used after the sacred unctions, and the ashes of sacred things no longer fit for use and which therefore were burnt. The restoration of 1890 also brought to light other relics of the past, such as the "frescoes," of which a most able description accompanied by excellent illustrations is given. At the same time the Consecration Crosses, which probably were whitewashed over by certain zealots at the Reformation, were discovered. The pre-reformation stone altar has been rescued from the desecration into which the reforming iconoclasts had cast it. It has now been restored to its original site and use. If the reader wishes to contrast how the church appeared before the last restoration, he will find an interesting picture on page 20. The volume also contains a list of rectors from 1300 to the present time. The patrons in the first part of the fourteenth century were the Prior and Convent of West Sherburn, Hants; but it is to be regretted there is no explanation to show how this religious community obtained the advowson. On looking through the list of the earlier rectors one cannot fail to notice how short a time these men held their cure—as elsewhere, the rectors of Padworth exchanged livings with some other parson,—various reasons have been given for this, these need not be discussed here; but the suggestion put forth on page 38, that the rectors were monks who were moved about at their Superior's discretion is not correct. In mediæval days the monks did not serve cures, they were, according to their "Order," professed either to their House or their "Order." The idea that these old-time rectors saw the Church as twentieth century people see it, is prettily told in a few graceful lines, to explain this was indeed an happy idea. At the close of the fourteenth century the patronage was in the hands of the Knight Templars. Again one is not told how this happened. From then till now the right of presentation has been vested in the Crown. A very pleasant description is given of one of the 17th century rectors, William Griffith, but one cannot accept the statement that the period when he was rector (1599-1606) was before the days of married clergy; without going into the controversy of a celibate and non-celibate clergy, it may be permissible to point out that an Act of Parliament of 1548-49 allowed the clergy to marry, and Elizabeth, through the persuasiveness of Lord Burleigh, granted this permission, though she disliked doing so and always manifested a great objection to married clergy; yet at the date William Griffith became rector of Padworth many clergy were married, and though he seems to have been a bachelor there was no legal reason why he should have remained so. In looking at the list of rectors, which covers a period of six centuries, a curious fact is revealed, not one of these men has made a name by which to live either as a preacher, writer or scholar. Doubtless they did their duty to their parishioners, and will have their reward in that "great day in which the works of all men will be tried," but for any deed by which to live the list is an utter blank. The Parish Registers are well described in a chapter devoted solely to them. This chapter III. gives a brief, but cleverly written history of the various Parliamentary Acts which have

governed the use of Parish Registers since the system of parochial registration was first introduced into England. One whole chapter, showing much research, is devoted to the history of the Manors of Padworth and their lords. The curious claim of Abingdon Abbey to Padworth is well described, and unless the view expressed by Mr. Stevenson is accepted, the student must be at a loss to understand how the estate had at the time of the Domesday Survey passed from Monastic to Lay hands. From the Domesday Survey it will be noticed that there were then in the parish two manors, and are even now as they were in Norman times, each under a separate lord. The chronological descent of both these manors has been clearly traced by the author. The larger manor, and from all that is told of its history certainly the most interesting one, belonged at one time to the Cowdray family, about whom a great deal is written. But in describing Thomas de Cowdray as present at the Battle of Boroughbridge, where Edward II. defeated the Earl of Lancaster, and, according to the writer, the Earl of Hertford, it must be pointed out that this is an error. It was the Earl of Hereford, Humphrey de Bohun, who some years before, had married the Princess Elizabeth of England, sister of the King, against whom both he and the Earl of Lancaster were fighting. The Battle of Boroughbridge was fought on the 16th March, 1322, at which date there then was no Earl of Hertford in the Kingdom, for that title had become extinct on the death of Gilbert de Clare—last Earl of Hertford of that family—at the Battle of Bannockburn in 1313. So from the Manors one passes to the parish. Padworth is now in the Hundred of Theale. At the time of the Domesday Survey it was in the Reading Hundred. When did the change take place? Was it when the Hundred of Theale was formed? This latter Hundred was called into existence at a period later than Domesday. It would have been interesting to have been told when this parish was transferred from one hundred to another. The general history of the parish, which will be found in the last chapter, tells of the enclosures—the story of the Congregational Chapel, known locally as “the Meeting House.” The Court Rolls of one of the Manors are printed in full, this and other information too numerous to mention are all recorded, which illustrate the history not only of this parish, but help in shewing how our forefathers in bygone times lived. It is from such works as Miss Sharp's that we are able to know and to realize the different conditions of the country in old days. The last page of this delightful little history of Padworth is reached, and one lays the volume down with a sigh of regret that there is no more to be learnt from its pages: at the same time thanking both Miss Sharp and Mr. Clinton for the treat they have afforded one, and expressing an earnest hope they will ere long produce another work dealing with the story of some other parish in our County.—J.H.C.



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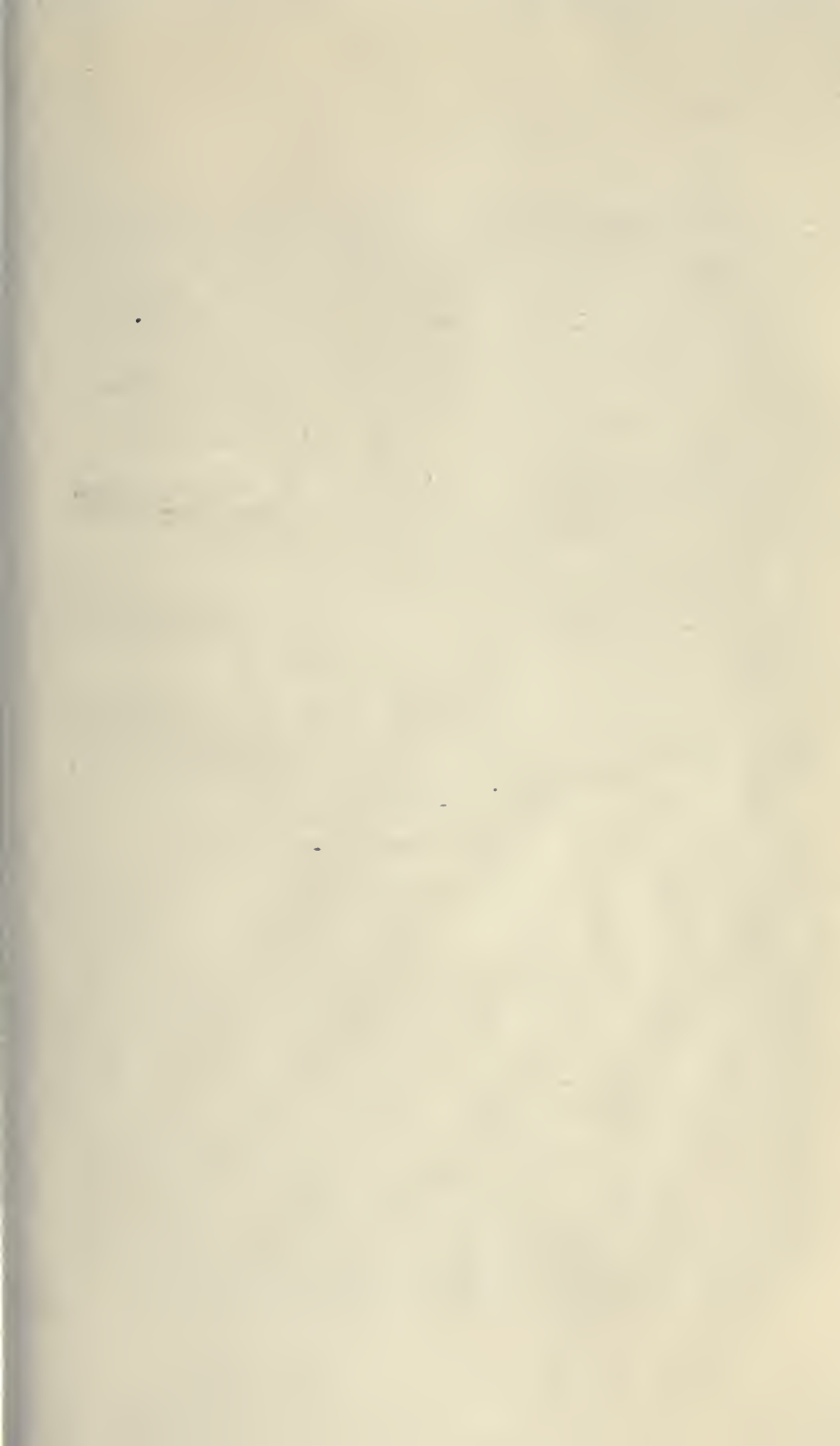
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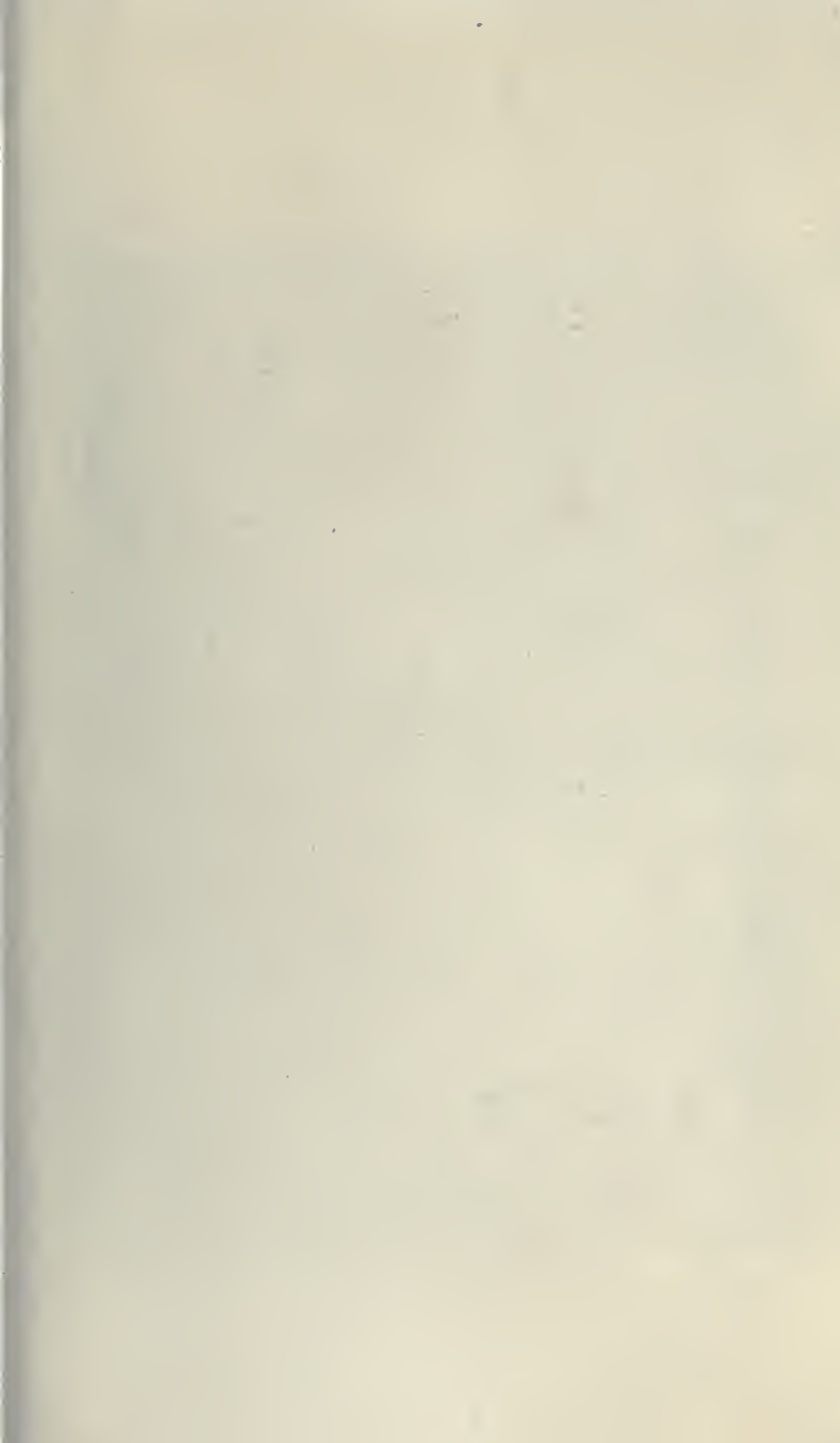
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KNOCKER ON SOUTH DOOR.



GLOUCESTER.



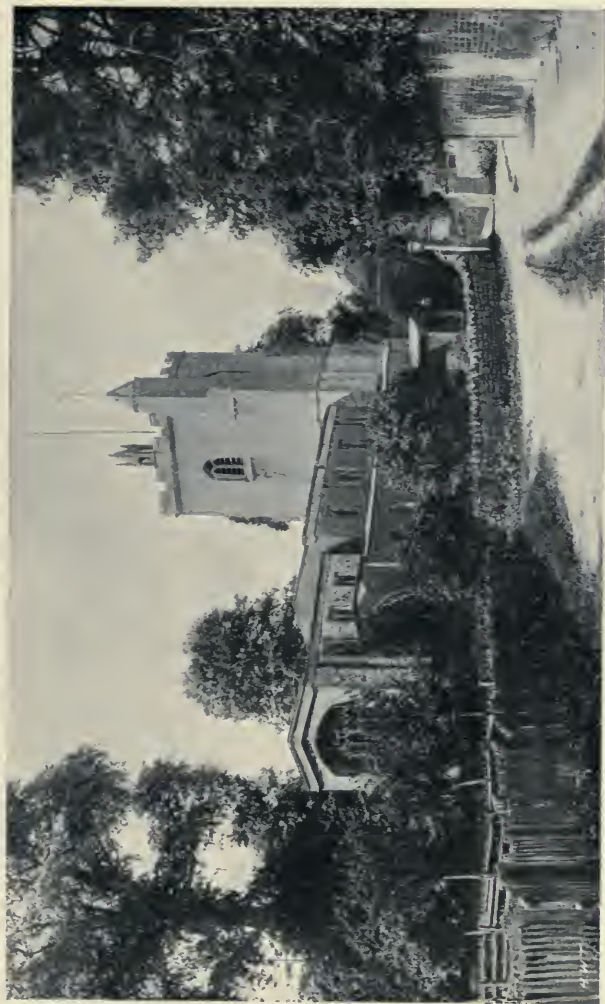
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PORTION (P) OF A NORMAN TYMPANUM IN WALL OF THE BISHOP'S PALACE GARDEN.



Taunton, Oxford.

889



Taunt, Oxford.

887

FIG. 40. FROM THE NORTH EAST.



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Fig. 41.

FROM THE SOUTH EAST.



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Fig. 42.

FROM THE NORTH EAST.



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Fig. 43.

INTERIOR, LOOKING WEST.

HAGBOURNE CHURCH.



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Fig. 44.

MURAL TABLET SOUTH WALL OF CHANCEL.

HAGBOURNE CHURCH.



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Fig. 45. COLUMN BETWEEN CHANCEL AND SOUTH CHAPEL.

HAGBOURNE CHURCH.



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Fig. 46. NORTH WINDOW OF NORTH CHANCEL CHAPEL.

HAGBOURNE CHURCH.



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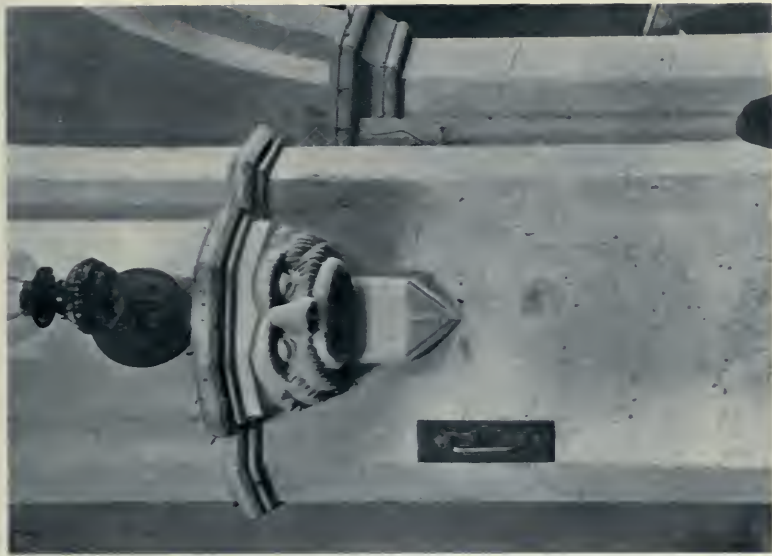
Fig. 47. WALL BRACKET AND PISCINA, NORTH CHANCEL CHAPEL.



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Fig. 48a.

BRACKET, SOUTH SIDE OF CHANCEL ARCH.



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48b.

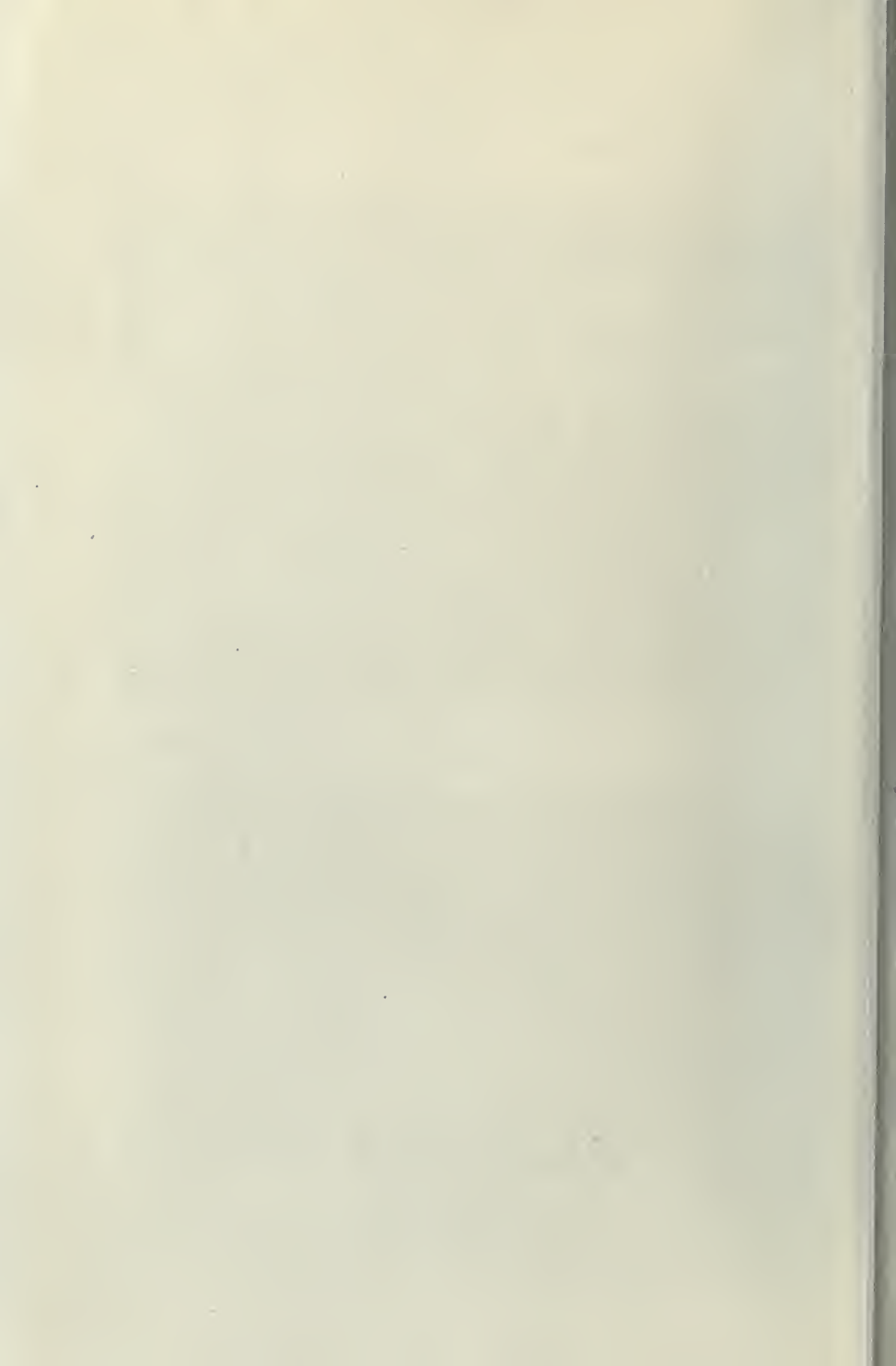
BRACKET, NORTH SIDE OF CHANCEL ARCH.



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Fig. 49.

THE NAVE, LOOKING EAST.





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Fig. 50a.

HEAD ON EAST RESPOND,
SOUTH NAVE ARCADE.



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Fig. 50b.

CHRISAMATORY ARCH, WEST COLUMN
OF SOUTH NAVE ARCADE.

HAGBOURNE CHURCH.



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Fig. 51.

THE FONT.

HAGBOURNE CHURCH.



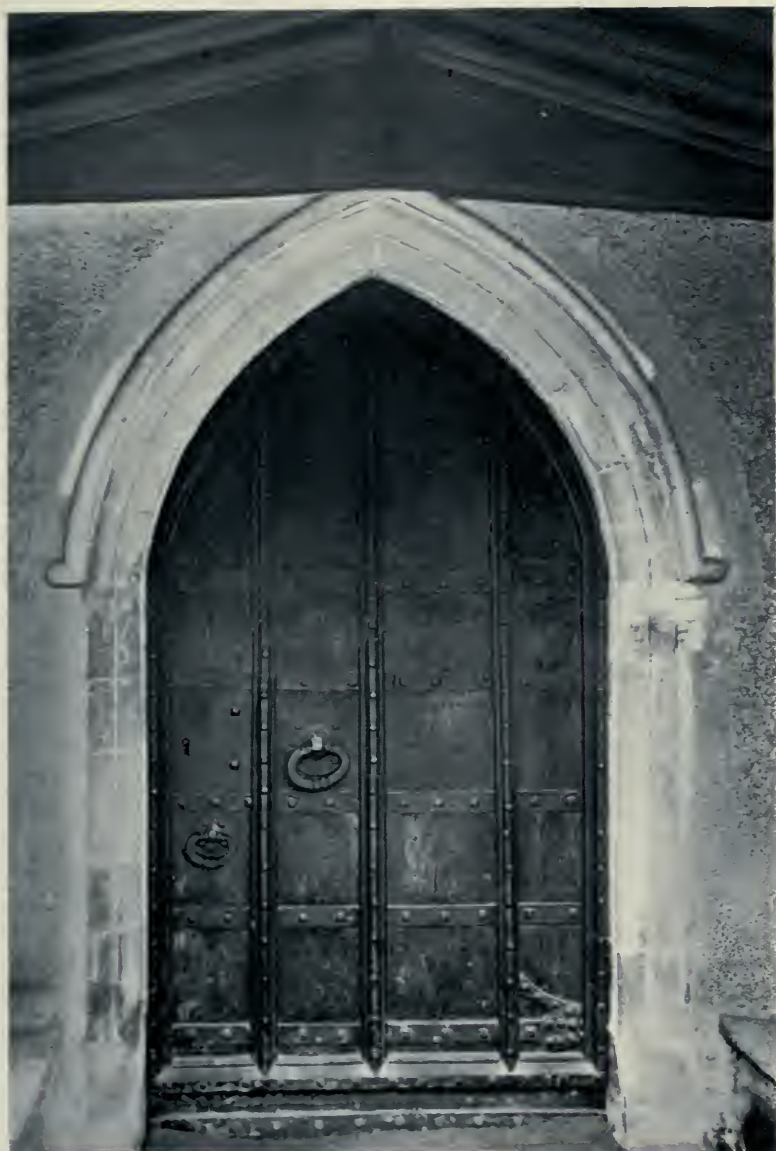
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Fig. 52.

THE NAVE ROOF.



HAGBOURNE CHURCH.



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Fig. 54.

THE NORTH DOORWAY.

HAGBOURNE CHURCH.



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Fig. 55.

THE WEST TOWER.

HAGBOURNE CHURCH.



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Fig. 56.

THE SANCTE BELLCOTE.



The Berks, Bucks & Oxon Archæological Journal.

Notes on the Churches of Stebenton, Hartwell, Didcot and Hagbourne.

By Charles E. Keyser, M.A., F.S.A.

(Read before the Berks Archæological Society, March 28th, 1912.)

(Continued from page 69.)

A DRIVE by a very circuitous route of two miles through flat moorland country will bring us to the out of the world, but picturesque, village of Hagbourne, teeming with old timber houses, and with pretty vistas, a place of much resort for artists. There is a large Village Cross near the Church (Fig. 39), a second in the hamlet of Crosscot, and a third in the hedge between the main village and hamlet, and these have given rise to the tradition that Hagbourne within the limits marked out by these crosses was a place of Sanctuary, and that an ancient knocker on the Church door was used to enable a fugitive to claim to take refuge in the Church. This is not mentioned in Lysons' *Magna Britannia*.

There appear to have been three manors here, the principal one with the Church at East Hagbourne having been given by Henry I. to his newly founded monastery at Cirencester, whose abbot had an occasional residence with a park here. The manor was granted at the Reformation to Sir Francis Knollys, and later came into the possession of Earl Craven. The manor of West Hagbourne was in the possession of the Windsor family from the time of William the Conqueror to the reign of Henry VI. or later, and that of Warling-

tons in West Hagbourne after being granted in 1231 to Edmund Earl of Cornwall, subsequently came to the Windsor family.

The Parish Church (Fig. 40), dedicated to St. Andrew, is in East Hagbourne, and is a very fine and interesting edifice, about 98½ feet in length by 46 feet across the nave and aisles. It was restored in 1859. It consists of a west tower, nave, aisles with north and south porches, chancel and chancel chapels. The earliest remaining portion is the south nave arcade, which is of late transitional Norman date of quite the end of the twelfth century. The Chancel seems to have been rebuilt about thirty years later (Fig. 41), and a chapel added on the south side. Towards the end of the thirteenth century, the north arcade of the nave, and the aisle and north chancel chapel were added. Next, as we are informed on two brasses still remaining, the south aisle and south chapel were partly rebuilt and enlarged early in the fifteenth century, and towards the end of that century the east window was inserted (Fig. 42), the fine west tower was erected, the roofs were raised, and a clerestory added both to the nave and chancel, and the north and south porches were built, though they have been much altered in more recent times.

Let us now commence the description of the Church, starting as usual in the interior of the Chancel (Fig. 43). The east window is large four centred late Perpendicular, with a groove round the containing arch and five lights with very elaborate tracery, typical of the latter part of the fifteenth century. There are some small fragments of old glass, part of a pavement, etc., in a light brown colour. On the north and south sides of the Chancel near the east end is a single Early English lancet with a groove round the head and down the jambs, within a segmental headed containing arch, that on the north with a hoodmould terminating on a mask on east and on a lady's head on the west. That over the south window has modern block terminations. There are three steps within the splay below the lancet lights. In the north wall is a plain square aumbrey, in the south a rounded trefoiled arched piscina with a fillet band on the edge of the arch, and with well moulded quatrefoil shaped basin. There are three two-light clerestory windows on each side, square headed Perpendicular, one above the lancet, and the other two above the arches opening to the chapels. They were added at the same time as the east window, as was also the Chancel roof, which is flat with tie beams and panelling between the beams and wall brackets. The east beam is supported on a stone corbel with the head of a bishop on south, and another head with a kind

of turban on the north. The other stone corbels on each side are plain. On the south of the Chancel is a large mural tablet (Fig. 44) in mottled marble with coat of arms much obliterated, and another shield, and then on a brass plate the figure of a gentleman in armour kneeling at a faldstool with his four sons behind him, and on the other side his lady, also kneeling, with her four daughters behind her. Below, on another brass plate is the following inscription in plain capital letters :—

Here lyeth buried the body of Christian Keate ye wife & Widdow
of Hugh Keate of Hodcott, in the Countye of Barkēs Gent who
had issue be tweene them fowre soñes and fower daūghs viz. Hugh John
Francis and William, Mary Margret Christian & Elinor. he deþted this
Life ye 23rd day of March A° Dñi 1613 & was buried in ye prish Chancell
of West Ildesley in ye County a fore said) shee departed this life ye 14th
day of August A° Dni 1627.

For whose pious memorie William Keate there yongest sone erected
this memoriall.

Below, is another shield with three animals, which look like cats, passant guardant.

There are two arches between the Chancel and south Chapel, low Early English supported on a massive circular column and semi-circular responds. The capitals of the central column (Fig. 44) and eastern respond are ornamented with very rich conventional stiff leaved foliage, of the same character as that noted at North Moreton, Long Wittenham and Steventon in this same neighbourhood. The W capital is plain and has an undercut abacus. There is a small head above the central capital. When the Chapel was enlarged by Claricia Wyndesore, it appears to have been screened off from the Chancel, and the grooves still remain on the capitals, where this screen, which has been removed, was formerly fixed in. There is a three-light window in the east, and a two-light in the south wall, both plain perpendicular work of the beginning of the 15th century. Each has a groove round the arch. In the south wall is a piscina with projecting basin, and a rich canopy with ogee arch and a quatrefoil on either side. It is suggested that this is an insertion, and was formerly part of a window. The roof is flat and has been altered in Jacobean times. There is a squint through to the Chancel, carried through the wall to the east of the east respond. Some fragments of old glass remain in the south window.

There are two arches of good decorated character between the Chancel and north Chapel, with two orders, having the quarter

round on the outer, and plain chamfered inner order. They are supported on an octagonal column, and semi-octagonal responds with plain capital having a roll moulding above and round the neck below. There is a mutilated head above the central column, apparently to support the hoodmould, which has now gone. The eastern part of the Chapel is now screened off for the vestry. The screen is partly old, with some linen panelling on the lower part. The east window is excellent three-light decorated, with quatrefoils in the head, and chamfered containing arch. There is a similar three-light window on the north side. In the east window are some very nice fragments of old glass, with canopies, pinnacles, and parts of three angels swinging censers, mainly of the fifteenth century. In the head of the north window (Fig. 46) is a pattern of foliage on green and brown grounds, and below two panels of early fourteenth century glass. On the east is the Nativity. The Blessed Virgin is recumbent on the couch, which has red drapery, and holds the Infant Christ in front of her, while Joseph stands at the foot of the bed. The coverlet is white, the ground blue. At the back is a panelled structure with yellow roof, above which are portrayed the heads of the ox in red and the ass in white, gazing at the Holy Family. Above is a rich canopy filling up the head of the panel, with foliage in brown and red on the border enclosing the sun with human face in the centre, and below two roses or eight rayed stars in brown on a blue ground. In the western compartment is the Blessed Virgin with red nimbus, green robe and red cloak, seated on a panelled settee. The Infant Saviour in plain brown garment is standing on her lap, and holds a basket containing three white pigeons, their heads and necks alone visible. The background is a rich blue formed by a pattern of roses within triangular compartments. Does this represent the presentation in the Temple? The figures both in this and the adjoining panel are under semi-circular arches in white with trefoiled fringe, and there is a border above and on each side of leaves in red and brown. A small fragment of an inscription does not belong here. On the south side of the east window is a large stone bracket with shield on the front. In the south wall close to the east end is a piscina (Fig. 47) with segmental headed crocketed canopy having an inner cinque-foiled arch, and projecting octagonal basin, resting on a bracket carved into a crowned head. In the wall above is carved an anchor with a star over each fluke. Was this a Chapel of St. Clement? The Communion table preserved here is of wood of

the Jacobean period. The Chancel arch is Early English with two plain chamfered orders on undercut abacus, the inner order resting on large brackets with singular carving, that on the south (Fig. 48a) with three female heads, that on the north (Fig. 48b) with a large head of a lion with great open mouth and quaintly represented hair.

There are three arches between the nave and aisles (Fig. 49). Those on the South are transitional Norman lofty and obtusely pointed with two plain orders, supported on round columns and half-round responds, with plain octagonal capitals. There are large claws in the form of leaves to the bases. At the east end on the respond on the nave side has been inserted a large sculptured human head (Fig. 50a), perhaps of Norman date. Across the east end of the aisle the old 17th century communion rails with well carved balusters have been placed to form a screen between the aisle and chapel. On the west capital of the western column has been carved a small trefoil headed recess (Fig. 50b), which is described in the Ecclesiastical Topography as a Chrismatory arch. It was cut out in the 15th century, probably when the beautiful font was placed in its present situation adjoining it. In the aisle are two two-light windows on south, and a three-light on west, all of plain perpendicular character corresponding with those in the south chapel. There are some fragments of old glass in the south windows. The roof is a plain lean-to with large bosses, the east one a monster head. The font (Fig. 51) stands at the west end of this aisle, and is very fine late perpendicular, of large dimensions and beautiful proportion, with octagonal panelled bowl having a circle enclosing a quatrefoil on each face. Within the quatrefoils on the cardinal faces is a rose, on the alternate faces a shield, on which are still remains of colour, on one on south-west a saltire on a red ground, probably for Windsor, on north-east a cross, on north-west a fesse on a dark ground, perhaps for York, on south-east quarterly with some birds' heads, etc. The tinctures are mainly obliterated so that it is not possible to identify the several bearings. There is a band round the stem, and well moulded base. It has a lead lining and lead round the upper verge.

In north-east corner of nave is the pulpit of wood of 15th century date with four panels richly carved with flowing tracery and cornice above, and a border of quatrefoils within circles round the lower part. It is supported on a slender central stem and four flying buttresses or shafts meeting at the base. There is a small buttress with foliated finial at the angle between each panel. In

this north-east corner is probably walled up the old staircase to the rood loft.

There are three clerestory windows on each side of the nave with two trefoil-headed lights within square frames, and one more single light farther west, of late 15th century date. The roof (Fig. 52) is a very fine specimen of perpendicular work, low pitched with tie beams and bosses at the centre. On the centre beam on east side of boss is carved a hunting scene, viz. : a hound chasing a stag, and on the west side a hound biting a stag. On the west side of the boss of the next beam west is the Tudor rose. Along the wall plate are a series of shields, with various devices, some of which are alleged to illustrate the work of the ancient Freemasons. On the south side from east is (1) a double headed eagle, (2) a crosier, (3) a cross with a cross above, (4) a pair of compasses. On north side from east (1) a bishop's mitre, (2) a tree with coils for the roots (3) a double C banded together, called in heraldry a millrind, and (4) a carpenter's square. The spaces between the wall brackets and tie beams are panelled.

The arches between the nave and north aisle are of early 14th century date, and are of two orders with quarter round on outer and chamfered inner order, on low octagonal columns and semi-octagonal responds and capitals in every detail corresponding with the arches from the Chancel to the north chapel. There are heads above the columns both on the side towards the nave and aisle, indicating a continuous hoodmould, now destroyed. There are two two-light windows on the north side, the eastern one partly in the chapel and similar to those in the chapel. There are some fragments of old glass in the head of each. At the east end is a large monument against the wall with inscription to John Phillips who died December 28th, 1775.

On the floor are three inscriptions in brass (Fig. 53). Two of them are not mentioned by Ashmole. The third to Claricia Wyndesore was in his time in the Chancel. The other two were originally in the south aisle as that must be the aisle referred to as having been founded, that is partly rebuilt, by John York.

The inscriptions read as follows and are interesting as they record the date of part of the existing Church :—

Orate specialiter p aiabz Johannis York et Johā
ne uxoris eius qui obierunt quinto die mess'
Septembris anno dñi millimo cccc° xl° quinto.
[? Did they die on the same day.]

Orate specialiter p aia Johis york fundatoris isti'
Ile qui obiit quintodecimo die mensis Julii anno
domini millimo cccc° xvj°.

Hic jacet Claricia Wyndsore quondā dñā de West hakburn
et uxor Johis york que fieri fecit istā capellā que obiit
xxiv° die marcii a° dñi M° CCCC° III° cui aiē ppiciet' dē Amen.

There was also formerly on the Chancel floor, the figure of a man in gown and his wife, and the following inscription —

of your charite pray for the soulles of John Angyer and
Alys his wife, which departed this present life to the
Mercy of Almighty God, the XXXIst yeare of the Reigne of
our Sovereigne Lord King Henry VIII. On whose soule
Jhesu have mercy.

The Royal Arms much obscured are preserved at the west end of this aisle.

The tower arch is somewhat puzzling. It is lofty and with an undercut hoodmould on both east and west face. It has a chamfered outer and quarter round to inner order, clumsy capitals and half-round responds. It appears to be early English and to have been altered when the later 15th century tower was built. The west window is perpendicular of three-lights, and on north side is a two-light square headed window within segmental headed containing arch of the same date. There are some large ledger stones preserved here, one to the Tirrells. There is on the west wall an 18th century picture of David playing the harp and the text below

Let everything that hath breath
Praise the Lord.

The south doorway within a Porch is segmental headed late 15th century work with a deep groove to the soffit of the arch and down the jambs. The door and the ironwork are old. There is a very large solid iron bar fitting into deep holes in the wall on the inside. On the west side of the porch is an old door with some nice ironwork, supposed to have been the entrance to the rood loft. The porch is low and has been altered, but is probably Perpendicular with the upper portion in timber on low stone wall on either side. Along the south aisle are a series of nice buttresses, and there is a cornice with some quaint heads, a man with flowing cap, a lion, etc., sculptured on it. The windows have plain external hoodmoulds. The lancet on south side of the Chancel has a hoodmould with mask termination on east and head of a priest on the west. There is an Early English stringcourse along the south and north walls and over

the angle buttresses of the Chancel. The east window has the hoodmould terminating on angels holding shields, and there is a base moulding below. The north window has mask terminations to the hoodmould. The Decorated windows to the north chapel and aisle have the roll-moulding on the hoodmoulds. There are three buttresses all much patched. This aisle has been coated with rough-cast. There is an interesting cornice along the north side of the clerestory with a small niche for a figure in the centre, and a series of sculptures, a lion, the busts of a man and lady, a female holding a wheel (perhaps St. Catherine) and some quaint heads. The north doorway within a porch (Fig. 54) is good Decorated with undercut hoodmould and hollow and quarter-round to arch and jambs. The door is old with some old ironwork, and a quaint little sanctuary knocker with a circular scutcheon and small handle. This has given rise to the tradition that the right of sanctuary within the limits marked out by the Crosses was exercised here. The outer arch of the porch, which has been much renewed, is of timber late Perpendicular. The stone walls supporting the porch are probably old.

The west tower (Fig. 55) is very fine, being built of a rich green coloured stone. It is embattled, with a two-light belfry window within semicircular headed containing arch on each face, a small trefoil headed light on middle stage north and west. The two-light north window on lower stage has hoodmould terminating on mutilated heads. The west window has the hoodmould terminating on shields, supported on the head of a man on north and of a lady on the south side. Her shield has a crescent on a chief, his a bird on the left side, both are much weather-worn. There is a turret with excellent newel staircase on the north side, leading up to the roof, and capped by a conical top. In the centre of the east parapet is a very pretty little sanctus bell-cote (Fig. 56) with open sides and spirelet, and still containing the bell, which has a pattern of fleur-de-lys engraved on it. The turret is supported on four shafts capped by pinnacles. It is of very late Perpendicular work. There is a cornice of heads round the upper part of the tower, which is one of the best specimens of late 15th century work in the County. There is a peal of eight bells, which has the reputation of being one of the finest and most harmonious in the Diocese.

Presentation to the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield.

THE following is a copy of the illuminated address which was presented to Mr. Ditchfield, Hon. Secretary of the Berks Archæological Society, at the summer meeting held at Gloucester, together with the list of subscribers, and Mr. Ditchfield's letter to them acknowledging their generous gifts.

TO THE REV. P. H. DITCHFIELD, M.A., F.S.A.,

Fellow Royal Soc. Litt.

We, the undersigned, desire in a small way to express our hearty recognition and appreciation of the eminent services you have rendered to the cause of archæology in general and more especially to the Berkshire Archæological Society, for which you have been for a quarter of a century the Honorary Secretary, and to which you have ungrudgingly devoted so much of your valuable time. To your energy and admirable organisation is mainly due the continued success and even the existence of the Society, and we all have the most pleasurable recollection of the many instructive lectures and interesting excursions which you have arranged.

We ask you, therefore, to accept this piece of plate for yourself, and small present of jewellery for Mrs. Ditchfield, as a mark of our esteem and affection, and we trust you may both be spared with health and strength to continue for many years your useful career in life.

Adams, Mr. Marcus
Bailey, Miss A.
Barry, Sir Edward
Benyon, Mr. J. H.
Bevan, Rev. G. C.
Bird, Miss L.
Blandy, Mr. H. B.
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Young, Mrs.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BERKS ARCHÆOLOGICAL
SOCIETY AND OTHER BERKSHIRE LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,—

It is difficult for me to express to you all my most grateful sense of your kindness and goodness to me in presenting to me these beautiful and handsome gifts, together with the above address, which expresses in far too generous terms any little services I may have rendered to the Society and County of Berks. No words of mine can tell my appreciation of these proofs of our friendship, which I shall value all the days of my life. I am most grateful to you for the kind thought of associating Mrs. Ditchfield with me in the reception of these gifts. She prizes the very beautiful jewelled ornament which you presented to her as one of her most cherished possessions. I desire especially to convey my most grateful thanks to the President of our Society, Mr. Keyser, for his generous thought of me in initiating the proposal to present this testimony of your goodwill towards me, and for the great trouble he must have taken in arranging it, and also to my friend, our Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Ernest Ravenscroft, who has been most kind and indefatigable in his exertions to promote its success. To all the subscribers I beg to offer my most cordial thanks. Owing to a chapter of accidents the list of the names of my kind friends has only recently reached me, and I trust that they will accept this somewhat tardy expression of my appreciation of their generous kindness to Mrs. Ditchfield and to myself. I trust that our Society may continue to flourish in the future as it has done in the past; and so long as I am permitted to live amongst you, it will by earnest endeavour to promote its welfare and to further those studies in which we all take so keen an interest.

With renewed thanks for all your kindness,

I remain, ladies and gentlemen,

Yours very sincerely,

P. H. DITCHFIELD.

Barkham Rectory,

December, 1912.

The Tithe of Salmon at Westminster Abbey in the Middle Ages.

THE DERIVATION OF "SALMON."

IN the thirteenth chapter of Flete's history of Westminster Abbey, edited in 1909 by the late Dean of Westminster, Dr. J. Armitage Robinson, now Dean of Wells, there is a very interesting account of the Tithe of Salmon, offered at the high altar of the church. The Dean informs us in his preface, that John Flete is the only mediæval writer who has attempted a history of Westminster Abbey. He was a monk of that house from 1420 to 1465; and his writings thus handed down to us are entirely in Latin. All these salmon were caught, Flete informs us, "within certain limits and bounds of the river Thames." This tithe was offered by the Thames fishermen of the neighbourhood, and "is said to have belonged by ancient right and custom from the dedication of this sacred place of Westminster to the same place and still altogether to belong to it."

In attestation of the offering of the tithe referred to, various brethren of the Abbey are quoted by name as having witnessed this offering of the salmon at the high altar at different times,—such as the prior, the chamberlain, the cook, and the keeper of the bier of St. Edward the Confessor. And our author further tells us that on a certain occasion in the reign of King Richard II., one large salmon was offered at the great altar of the blessed Peter of Westminster by the fishermen underwritten, viz: Richard Halle, John Elyot, Thomas Cook and William Newton; of whom the master was Gilbert, citizen and fisherman of London, residing on the ancient fishery; and they were serving under him for ten years past and more; and they confessed that they had offered at the altar of St. Peter of Westminster tithes of Salmon well and faithfully for the said ten years, namely six tithe Salmon, of which they had offered three in one week (*videlicet sex salmones decimales, unde tres in una obtulerunt septimana*).

At that time John de Fernago was marshal of the Refectory (*Refectorario*) at the Abbey, and on his making enquiry of Richard Halle, the senior fisherman (aged sixty), as to what were the limits, up stream and down stream, of the Thames fishery, from which, by

ancient and modern custom, Tithe of Salmon was due to the Abbey, the old man told him that Staines bridge was the boundary up stream, and that Yenlade beyond Gravesend was the boundary down stream, and all the others agreed that such were the limits traditional amongst them from their fathers. Yenlade is the north inlet in the parish of All Hallows, Hoo, in the Isle of Grain, in Kent.

And then our author mentions a quaint and interesting custom as recorded in the book of Customs (*in libro Consuetudinarii*), under the title of the kitchen rules, as follows:—"If it happen that any fisherman bring a salmon, already offered as tithe at the great altar of St. Peter, into the kitchen—when the said fish shall have been gutted, the Sacrist in lieu of the candle of one pound in weight which he has to make a present of to the fisherman, or in lieu of the two candles of half a pound each which he shall give to his [the fisherman's] two attendants, if such shall be there, shall have half the head of the fish, and of the half immediately below the gill as much as three fingers of breadth or as the fin of the fish extended includes. This fish, when it shall have been cooked, ought to be carried in a dish up the middle of the Refectory to the prior's table, at which the prior and all [the brethren] resident in that house ought to stand up. The fishermen, too, ought that day to feed at the prior's table, and after dinner to have a measure of liquor and bread from the cellarer; and for this the said cellarer ought to have [as his perquisite] as much of this fish—from the tail end of it—as his four fingers, with his thumb erect, can span."

It may be supposed that "half the head" (in this translation from the original Latin) means half the head cut lengthwise; and altogether the fisherman would thus have as his perquisite half the head and jowl, so to speak.

At the end of the chapter Flete quotes from the *Topographica Hibernica* (Irish Topography) of Giraldus Cambrensis (Rolls Series, v. 125) concerning the derivation of "Salmon." His quotation is headed—"Giraldus, in his history of the Irish, in chapter xli. says that the salmon naturally takes its name 'a saliendo' (*from leaping*) as is clear below"; and then he goes on to tell of a certain river in South (*sic*) Munster, full of fish—principally salmon—"between the hill of St. Brandon and the spacious sea which flows between Spain and Ireland," in which river wherever the salmon encounter an obstacle "*valde præruptum*" (*i.e.*, very steep, a high salmon leap), they bend their tails towards their mouths (*caudam ad os replicant*). "Sometimes too," Giraldus adds, "in order to give greater impetus

to their leap (*ad majorem saltus efficaciam*) they hold back their tails in their mouths (*caudam ipsam ore comprimunt*); and whilst they suddenly let themselves go (*se subito resolvunt*) from this sort of circular attitude they shoot themselves up (*transmittunt*) from the depths [beneath] to the heights [above] to the astonishment of those who stand by, with a sort of spring like that [caused] by the sudden unbending (*explicatione*) of a rod bent round into a circle," and the writer adds "the same kind of leaping is found in other rivers, but not on so large a scale."

The history of Westminster is a varied and a chequered one. According to Widmore the first benefactor was King Offa in 785. According to Flete, the first church ever built there was dedicated by King Lucius, the first Christian King of Britain and of the world, in 184. Then when the Diocletian persecution was over, it was degraded to be a temple of Apollo. Reconstructed by the Saxon King Sebert, this church was consecrated by St. Peter the Apostle 'in the spirit'; and, I have thought it not altogether uninteresting to draw attention to these quaint and interesting episodes in the monastic life of this Thames-side Abbey of Westminster.

F. T. WETHERED.

HURLEY VICARAGE, BERKS.

November, 1912.

The late Mr. James Parker, Hon. M.A., F.G.S.

THE tragically sudden death of Mr. James Parker, on October 10th, 1912, at the hotel in the Strand which he had frequented for over sixty years, removes one of the most familiar figures in Oxford. Born on May 5th, 1833, in Turl Street, in the house of his father, the well-known antiquary, John Henry Parker, C.B., he was educated at Winchester, under Moberley. From a very early age he was drawn towards his father's pursuits. I have seen a sketch of a bench-end from a Gloucestershire Church made by him at the age of nine, and his youthful diaries show quickly a growing interest in architecture. A series of driving tours with his father through Normandy, Brittany and Southern France in 1850-51 helped to

complete his architectural education. The beautiful drawings of the French antiquary, Mr. George Bouet, of Caen, who accompanied them, were among Mr. Parker's prized possessions. In 1852 he became a member of the Oxford Architectural Society, to which his father was librarian. Though to many of the present generation this Society is only one of many similar flourishing provincial institutions, yet it held a unique position when Parker joined it. Its early history is that of the Gothic Revival in England. Among its members were some of the best known Oxford men of the Victorian era. Freeman had been secretary, and still took an active part in its proceedings. On the Committee were: Charles Marriott, of Oriel, William Sewell, founder and first Warden of Radley, Edwin Palmer, of Balliol, Henry Liddon, John Burgon, John Earle, Thomas Combe, of the University Press, the friend of the pre-Raphaelites, and Orlando Jewitt, the engraver.

Turning over the reports at random, we find papers contributed by John Hungerford Pollen on the "Use of Decorative Painting in Churches," embodying the principles which he was to put into practice on the roofs of the Union Library and of Merton College Chapel; by Matthew Bloxam, of Rugby, on "Ancient Monastic Arrangement"; by Gilbert Scott, on "Doncaster Church"; by E. G. Street, on "True Principles in Architecture, and the Possibility of a Development founded thereon"; by Chamberlain, Vicar of St. Thomas', who was the first to use vestments in Oxford since the Reformation, on "Principles to be observed in ornamenting Churches, as regards Illumination, Stained Glass and Encaustic Tiles"; and among the younger men, by Lygon, of Christ Church—afterwards Earl Beauchamp—on "Mediæval Monuments and especially Brasses"; and by F. G. Lee on "Christian Epitaphs." The Society's authority on matters architectural was unquestioned; its advice on new buildings and restoration was sought from far and near. To its influence was largely due Acland's success in getting a Gothic design adopted for the New Museum, against the opposition of many who held to the old classical style. Street, then Diocesan architect, would bring his plans for the Society's *imprimatur*. The Committee, "one of whose ordinary occupations was the discussion of designs," furnished working drawings for churches, as far away as India and Newfoundland. Joining this distinguished body of men at the age of nineteen, Parker made his mark at once with a paper on "The Triforium and its Derivation," which received the compliments of the President, Dr. Harington, of B.N.C., on its

“ingenuity and research”—a remark which gives the key-note to the whole of his life’s work. Within two years Parker had joined his father on the Committee, and established his reputation by a succession of papers on such subjects as “The Early English Style,” and the “Architecture of Brittany” (1856), “The Study of English Domestic Architecture” (1859), “Walter de Merton as Chancellor, Founder and Architect” (1861), etc. It was largely due to the two Parkers during this period that the Society did not share the fate of its contemporary and rival, the Cambridge Camden Society, and wander away to perish of inanition in a barren wilderness of mere ecclesiology.

Parker’s interests, however, were not confined to mediæval archæology; he had taken up the study of geology at an early age, and his frequent antiquarian visits to Amiens and its neighbourhood had given him an intimate knowledge of the Somme Valley. Boucher de Perthe’s discoveries of flint implements were made known to English archæologists by Evans and Prestwich in 1859, and within a year Parker had brought back a collection of implements, and a set of elaborate sections made by himself of the gravels of St. Acheul. Parker embodied his observations in a paper on *Early Flint Implements from the Somme Valley* (1862), in which he was able to compare his French specimens with those discovered by himself and Boyd Dawkins at Wookey Hole that year. This must be among the earliest English contributions to the literature of palæolithic man. His Somme Valley studies bore fruit in several subsequent papers read before the Architectural Society, the Ashmolean Society, and the Geologists’ Association, of which body, by the way, he was the oldest member but one at the time of his death. From 1862 onwards he carried on those researches into the early history of the Oxford district, which made him the leading authority on the subject, contributing to the Proceedings of the Architectural Society, accounts of his excavations of the Roman villa at Beckley (1862), of the Garford Barrow (1872), a valuable summary of the Roman occupation of Dorchester and its neighbourhood (1868), and a critical discussion of the site of the battle of Ashdown (1871). These researches lead up to a paper (1871), which was subsequently expanded into the book by which he is perhaps best known, “*The Early History of Oxford, 727-1100*” (1884), one of the first publications of the Oxford Historical Society. On the departure of John Henry Parker in the later “sixties” for his excavations in Rome, his son stepped naturally into his place, and thenceforward

was identified more than anyone else with the study of mediæval archæology in Oxford. For the next thirty years he was the main-spring of the Architectural Society, and both by his direct teaching, and by the example of his method, supplied an invaluable adjunct to the study of history in the University. Nowhere was his work more valuable than in organising that regular series of architectural excursions, which had been originated by Maxwell Lyte in 1870, almost invariably contributing elaborate papers on the places visited. On the death of Freeman in 1891, Parker succeeded him as President of the Society, an office which he held till 1898, and only vacated when the advance of years obliged him to concentrate his energies on a few pet hobbies. His vast store of antiquarian knowledge was always placed most freely at the disposal of his contemporaries, and may be traced in much of their work. He accompanied Freeman in 1879, when the latter was collecting topographical material for his "William Rufus," and as Parker knew his "Wace" and his "Orderic Vital" just as well, and his Normandy, probably better than Freeman, he materially influenced the historian's conclusions in many important points.

Of the liturgical work which occupied his close attention, more especially between the years 1875-82, and which raised him to the front rank of English authorities on the subject, Dr. Wickham Legg writes :—

"I have been asked to speak of Mr. James Parker's services to liturgical studies. In his works on the successive revisions of the Book of Common Prayer (1876-7), he showed us the true way of treating the subject, namely, by beginning with the earliest recension till 1662 ; his work is a monument of human patience and industry. In his controversy with Lord Selborne, "*Did Queen Elizabeth take other order*" ? (1878-9) he is thought by many excellent judges to have gone very far on the way to destroying the foundation of the Ridsdale Judgment. A very useful edition of *the Order of Communion*, 1548, privately printed 1876, was also brought out by him, and in this case, as in others, his modesty concealed his good work under the veil of anonymity. Parker saw the importance of the lectures of Dr. Lloyd, Bishop of Oxford, when Regius Professor of Divinity, as the starting point of the English school of liturgy, which, though it may seem to have lost something of its force under the frowns of the authorities of to-day, has yet done work which is the envy of Continental scholars."

His geological studies, which he kept up to the very last, are the subject of a separate notice.* He was no mean microscopist, and for some years was the centre of an informal society which met at his house in Turl Street, devoting special attention to the foraminifera. The width of his learning, however, did not make him a mere book-worm. He was always a keen theatre-goer, invariably choosing, until quite recently, the front row of the pit. I have often heard him speak of his early friendship with the Keeleys, who played leading parts at Drury Lane under Macready's regime in the "fifties," and at whose table he would meet Douglas Jerrold, Albert Smith, Montague Williams and other celebrities. His house-parties at Fyfield Manor, where he produced, stage-managed, and painted the scenery of, his own and other plays, are still remembered by a few of the elder generation. He wrote a lengthy notice of *Essays and Reviews* the day after they came out, for the *Literary Churchman*, then a periodical of considerable influence. The book, however, did not "catch on" for some little time, and when at length everyone was discussing it, and Parker was asked why he had not reviewed it, he was able to point to his unnoticed critique of six weeks earlier. The elder Parker had been an intimate friend of Sir Stephen Glynne, and this friendship was kept up by Gladstone, who used to visit the younger Parker when he came to Oxford. It was on one of these occasions that he met Goldwin Smith at Parker's house, and the long conversation between the two helped to overcome Gladstone's last lingering scruples against the introduction of the Irish Church Disestablishment Bill. Of Parker's generosity in helping fellow workers I have already spoken, but the acknowledgment freely rendered by the bigger men was not infrequently omitted by others, who tacitly accepted the credit for what they had borrowed. A more conscientious worker it would be impossible to meet; he would never accept any statement of fact at second-hand, but would test it by the earliest authority whether printed or manuscript, or would verify it by original field work. His gift for research was equalled by his ingenuity, and if the latter quality sometimes led him into sheer paradox, it was always backed by such a wealth of learning, as to command the respect, if not the assent, of his opponents. He was his own severest critic, ever striving after an impossibly ideal perfection in his work, and to this fact is due his comparatively small output of bigger books, and the vast mass of nearly or only half-finished material that he left behind him. Some 150 volumes of MS. topographical collections, and some sixty of liturgical, remain as a monument of his industry.

PERCY MANNING, M.A., F.S.A.

* Will be printed in April number.

The Church of Blewbury.

(Continued from page 82.)

A dispute arose in 1223 between the Bishop of Salisbury and Hugo de Sandford, son of Thomas de Sandford, as to the advowson of the Churches of Blewbury and Marlborough. Hugo de Sandford claimed the right of presentation to these benefices (it had belonged to his family in the past), but was opposed by the Bishop. It was referred to the arbitration of Jocelin Bishop of Wells, and Magister M. Belet, who by award dated April 15th, 1223, allowed the presentation to Blewbury to remain with de Sandford, while the right of collation was given to the Bishop. At the same time de Sandford gave up all claims to the advowson of the Churches at Marlborough and to that at Preschute. ⁽¹⁾ The actual terms of the award as far as it affects Blewbury are interesting. They are :—

“Ad praesentationem autem dicti Hugonis de Sanford, tanquam
“veri patroni, et haerendum suorum debebunt praedictus episcopus
“et successores sui admittere ad ecclesiam de Blebire personam
“idoneam et eam in eadem instituere quotiens ipsam vacare con-
“tingerit *qui erit canonicus Sarum ecclesiae* de ipsa ecclesia de Blebire
“et habebit semper stallum in choro et locum in capitulo, quem
“habere solebat canonicus de Merleberge et de Blebire.”

Hugo de Sandford, therefore, maintained, by this award, for himself and his heirs, the presentation to the Prebendal Stall of Blewbury.

Early in the 13th century, Lucas, Prebend of Blewbury, with the consent of the Bishop of Salisbury (Richard le Poore), set apart certain of the tithes and revenues of the Church of Blewbury for the support of a resident priest. ⁽²⁾ The terms of the grant are as follows :—

“Noverit universitas vestra me caritatis intuitu, concessisse
“quantum ad me pertinet Ricardo capellando de Bleburie, omnes
“obventiones altarium ecclesia de Bleburie et capellanum de Optun ⁽³⁾
“et Estun, et omne legatum, praeter illud quod specialiter ecclesiae
“fuerit legatum, et omnes minutas decimas de animalibus pro-
“venientis, percipiendas et habendas omnibus diebus vitae suae,
“*exceptis decimis trium domorum* quas excipio, scilicet *omnes decimas*

(1) Sarum Charters and Documents. R.S., pp. 327, &c. (4 documents).

(2) Sarum Charters and Documents. “Donatio ecclesiae de Bleburia.”

(3) Upton and “Aston Upthorpe.”

"*de domo dni Abbatis de Rading*, Andriae Bassett, Osberti Turpin, "et excepto omni genere bladorum et leguminosum et feno, quod "simpliciter excipio. Concedo etiam eidem Ricardo illum domum "cum curtilagio quam Gerardus capellanus, aliquando habuit juxta "cimiterium. Debet autem dictus R. invenire secum unum capella- "num ad deservendum dictae ecclesiae et capellis et omnia onera "tam ecclesiae quam capellarum sustinere."

The document is dated "tertio Kalendas Aprilis pontificatus nostri anno decimo, i.e., March 30th, 1227." (1)

The relative values of the income allocated to the Church at Blewbury, and that portion of the revenue still going to the Cathedral Church at Sarum, is to be seen from the *Taxatio Ecclesiastica*. P. Nicolai. 1288-1291.

"*Taxatio bonor' Sp'ualia' & Temporalium' in Archidiaconalib' Dors' et Sar'.*

	Sarum Sp' Taxatio.	Decima.
Prebend' de Blebury	£40	£4
Vicar' in eadem	£5 6s. 8d.	10s. 8d.

In the 14th century we find two important alterations made in the fabric of the Church, both dating from about the middle of the century. The first was probably the addition of the Chapel on the south side of the Chancel. For the purpose of forming this, the east wall of the south transept was completely removed and the south wall of the Chancel cut through, leaving the lower portion standing and also leaving one pier, the two arches thus formed are supported by half circular columns, somewhat rudely finished, but which have apparently undergone considerable alteration. One of the original Norman buttresses can still be seen on the Chancel wall in this Chapel. The other alteration was the addition of the North Aisle, which extends westwards from the transept for a little over half the length of the Nave. In all probability its termination was fixed by the position of the ancient north doorway. The Arcade of this Aisle consists of two arches only, supported by an octagonal column, with simple moulding on the capital, the lowest being a scroll moulding, and in the base a bold ogee, surmounted by a roll and fillet.

(1) Richardson states that Luke was Prebendary about 1220, but this can scarcely be so if, as he also states, Hugh de Sandford was Prebendary in 1223. For not only is Lucas a party to this endowment, but we find in "*Taxatio dignitatum et prae bendam*," A.D., 1226 :—

"Lucas de prebenda de Blebwe Marc et dimid	} Estimat XL. Marc."
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To form this North Aisle the eastern wall of the north transept was removed, and about the same time the original Norman light was replaced by the traceried window now found in the east wall of the transept. Below this window is replaced in position a stone altar which was, during late restorations, found buried; although much worn, it still shews traces of the incised crosses.

Returning to the history of the Prebend, nothing of importance is found until after 1312, when the Order of the Knights Templars was extinguished. The Knights Hospitallers obtained a certain proportion of the properties of the disbanded order, but in England the King, Edward II., held it for some considerable time. Among the possessions of the Templars was, as we have seen, the advowson of Blewbury, and the King soon made use of the power of presentation to the Prebend, for on July 6th, 1312, he granted it to one Adam de Osgodeby. ⁽¹⁾ The claim of the King was, however, resisted by the Hospitallers in the next reign, for although Edward III. appointed to the Prebend a certain Henry de Clyf, he was not allowed peaceful possession, ⁽²⁾ but was troubled by prolonged litigation:—"Et quia adversarius ⁽³⁾ ejusdem clerici nostri jani promotus est in episcopum Hereforden', et finis nondum impositus est dictae liti (quamquam duae diffinitivae sententiae per eodem clerico nostro sint promulgatae), &c., &c. Henry de Clyf, however, apparently remained in disputed possession of the Prebend, for we find

(1) Protection for one year for Master Henry de Clif, Clerk at Blebury, Aston and Upton. ⁽⁴⁾

(2) Protection for one year to Master Henry de Clyf, Prebendary of Blewbury in the Church of St. Mary, Salisbury. ⁽⁵⁾

The resistance of the Hospitallers to the King's claim was apparently for a time successful, for in the account of the lands and holdings of the Knights Hospitallers ⁽⁶⁾ we find under the year 1338, and in connection with the Preceptory of Greenham (near Newbury), that a life payment of 20/- a year was made to Wm. Auschelin, according to the order of Thomas Lardner, lately prior of England, and that a like life payment was made to William de Latton, as

(1) Calendar of Patent Rolls. 5 Ed. ii.

(2) Rymer. Foedera, Litterae et Acta Publica. Three letters from Edward III., dated respectively ⁽³⁾ March 4th, September 22nd and September 22nd, 1328. The last of the three being to the Pope. Rot. Rom. 2 Edward iii.

(4) Calendar of Patent Rolls, 1331, Sept. 26th. 5 Ed. III.

(5) " " " 1331, Oct. 6th.

(6) Camden Society, "The Hospitallers in England."

ordered by brother Leonard when prior, for saving to the order the advowson of Blewbury ("pro salvatione advocacionis ecclesie de Blebury"). Prior Lardner died in 1329 and Phillip de Thame was Prior in 1338, Leonard de Tybertis was Prior between these two dates, and consequently the Hospitallers secured the advowson of Blewbury about the year 1335.

(To be continued).

Eighteenth Century Remedies.

By Emily F. Climenson.

AMONG the great number of letters of the eighteenth century I possess either of my great-great aunt, Mrs. Montagu, or written to her, are many singular medical remedies. Great must have been the courage displayed to swallow some at all; and boundless the faith to attribute to them their healing powers!

For toothache, Mrs. Delany recommends: "Little trefoil leaves and yarrow pounded, and made into a little pellet put in the tooth, or tied up in muslin and held between the teeth."

Quicksilver was given to Deborah, Mrs. Montagu's maid, for worms. Hemlock was recommended for consumption.

Calves pluck water for want of appetite. Lady Medows, sister of Mr. Montagu, had cancer, from which she died; she was dosed with Vipers salts. Speedwell was considered a cure for rheumatism.

When Lord Bath (Pulteney) had a cold, to which he was often subject, he would eat a roast lemon, and Mrs. Montagu would prepare it for him. He also took lemon and wormwood, and Viper salts.

Oil of earth worms and opodeldoc was applied for lumps and swellings.

Saffron in tea was for heaviness of spirits or ennui, and was constantly taken by Mr. Robinson (Mrs. Montagu's father), when he was bored with living in the country, which he detested, and worried with his nine children.

When Mr. Brockman, of Beachborough, was in love with Elizabeth Robinson in 1742, and she rejected his suit, her father recommended the unfortunate lover to swallow asafœtida pills as a love cure.

When the celebrated Lord Godolphin's physician, the eccentric Dr. Monsey, imagined he had a polypus in his heart, he sat continually taking asafœtida pills for it. When Mrs. Montagu paid her first visit to Denton, her husband's place near Newcastle-on-Tyne, which in those days was looked upon as we should of a journey to the North Pole, Dr. Monsey writes her strings of advice as to her health. He says, "in high fever you may be blooded 5, 6, or 7 ounces, and if you flag, a blister will set matters to rights. I say nothing of vomits, you can't bear them, but you will gently purging, your lemon mixture and contrayerva with a little saffron, be cautious of hot medicines, but do not wholly throw them away, as to spasms and cramps they are such Proteuses, one does not know how to catch or hold them, Valerian and Castor are in such reputation for vanquishing those Hussars. Asafœtida you can't bear, I wish you could . . . if feverish three spoonfuls of a decoction of the bark by boiling one ounce and a half in a quart of water to a pint, and if your stomach flags put in from five to ten drops of Elixir of Vitriol, so arm'd a common cold will not have courage to attack you." Dr. Gregory and Dr. Cullen in a joint recipe for Mrs. Montagu written from Edinburgh, recommends powdered crabs eyes for her spasms ! Dr. Gregory's son was the inventor of that excellent but nauseous remedy, Gregory's powder.

Early in the 18th century, circ. 1742, Devil's drops were the fashion, but Mrs. Montagu's father warns her as a young girl that they are to be considered worthy of their name ; to them succeeded Ward's drops, and afterwards, as a sort of *vox populi* remedy, James' powders.

Dr. Collet recommends Mrs. Montagu to be bled, "a large orifice made and small quantity of blood taken, swallow milipedes ! and take riding exercise on a pillion" for liver trouble. A pleasanter remedy was that prescribed by two Northumberland doctors for Mr. Rogers of Denton Hall, when, his leg swelling, they feared dropsy and he was ordered two bottles of Hock daily !

Writing about wine reminds me that in the funeral expenses of Mrs. Rogers in 1734 one dozen of Sack wine cost £1 2s. 6d.

After the Duchess of Portland's confinement in 1739, Dr.

Sandys bled her for a feverish cold on the Monday and Thursday after her child was born !

In a letter from the Earl of Bath from Tunbridge Wells in the year 1762, he thanks Mrs. Montagu for the rosemary garters she had sent him for cramp, and pronounces them as successful. How they were made does not appear, but a friend of mine, who is an expert on the 18th century, and whom I consulted, tells me he was recommended to place rosemary under his mattress for cramp and it relieved it.

In 1738, the wet nurse to the Marquis of Titchfield, afterwards the third Duke of Portland, had had chicken-pox, Mrs. Robinson gives her daughter the following recipe for the Duchess : "For the wet nurse after the chicken-pox, that she may become new milch again, a handful of camomile flowers, a handful of penny-royal, boiled in white wine. and sweetened with treacle, to be taken at going to rest."

As to bleeding, cupping and blistering, endless mentions are made, it was indeed "the survival of the fittest" then !

When my husband's grandmother, who had brought him up, died in 1866, a huge four-poster bedstead with scarlet moreen curtains, valences and bedspread, came with other furniture to Shiplake. These scarlet-draped beds were thought to be beneficial in fevers, especially scarlet-fever, so that the patient should see red as well as being red himself to enable the rash to come out !

But I have rambled on enough, and too much I fear, but will end with Mr. Jekyll's witty epigram on doctors.

Dr. J. Letsom was a well known doctor in Mr. Jekyll's day, he wrote :—

"When folks are sick and send for me
I purges, bleeds and sweats them,
If after that they choose to die
What's that to me ? J. Letsom."

and this :—

"A single doctor like a sculler plies,
The patient lingers and by inches dies ;
But two physicians like a pair of oars,
Convey him quickly to the Stygian Shores."



Notes on the Topography of the Parish of North Moreton, Berks :

CHIEFLY FROM THE ROLLS OF THE MANORIAL
COURTS.

By J. E. Field, M.A., Vicar of Benson.

NOT many parishes are fortunate enough to have had their ancient Court Rolls preserved so fully as has been the case with North Moreton. These are in the possession of Lord Aldenham, whose father, the first Lord Aldenham, had been (as Mr. Henry Hucks Gibbs) lord of the manor for a few years in the middle of the nineteenth century. The Manorial Courts were held, as a rule, half-yearly, and the records of ten of them exist from 1333 to 1362. There are sixteen from 1446 to 1482, and two of 1502. They are fairly continuous, with occasional intervals of four or five years, from 1514 to 1541, and similarly from 1561 to 1621. There are also one of 1705, ten from 1726 to 1737, and one of 1743. One also of 1549 is in the Public Record Office. Together with the Court Rolls in Lord Aldenham's possession are two schedules of lands in the parish, dated respectively 1717 and 1768; and to these the references under those dates in this paper must be understood to refer.

The Manor had passed to the Stapleton family at the close of the thirteenth century, and the Courts of 1333,4, are held for Sir Thomas de Sheffield, who had married the widow of Sir Gilbert de Stapleton. Sir Miles Stapleton, the son of Sir Gilbert and one of the original Knights of the Garter, held his Courts in 1350 and 1364. Another Sir Miles, the last of the Stapletons who owned the manor, held them from 1446 to 1448. After his death in 1466, Katherine, his widow, married Sir Richard Harcourt, and they held their Courts from 1470 to 1482. Sir Miles and Katherine Stapleton had left two daughters, Elizabeth and Joan, the elder of whom married (1) Sir William Calthorpe, (2) Sir John Fortescue, and (3) Sir Edward Howard, second son of John second Duke of Norfolk. He held his Courts in 1502 and died in 1513. No lord is named in the Rolls of 1514. Elizabeth had died in 1505, and the Manor

now passed to Francis Calthorpe, who was her son by her first husband. From 1518 to 1531 the Courts were held for Elizabeth wife of Francis Calthorpe, by Sir Edward Howard's elder brother Thomas, earl of Surrey and from 1524 duke of Norfolk. Sir Francis Calthrop held them in 1536, 1537 and 1541, and William Calthrop esq., his great nephew, from 1561 to 1565. The Manor next passed to William Dunche esq. of Little Wittenham, who held Courts from 1567 to 1595; as did his widow, Mary Dunche, from 1597 to 1600; their grandson, Sir William Dunche, in 1605, his son Edmund in 1621, and Edmund's son Edmund in 1705.* The next lord of the manor was Robert Hucks esq., and his Courts were held from 1726 to 1743. The "senescall" or steward presiding at the Court is usually named from 1561, and among these are found several well-known Berkshire names: Michael Molyns, 1561 to 1571; Thomas Stampe, 1579 to 1605; Brook Whitney, 1610; John Whistler, 1613 to 1620; Richard Blackall, 1705; Cornelius Norton, 1726 to 1734; Richard Toovey, 1736 to 1743.

The Rolls are in Latin until the year 1732, but afterwards in English.

It is proposed in the present paper to give from these Rolls some notes and illustrations of the topography, many of which are of considerable interest.

The high road which enters the parish at Brightwell Moor-end, passing southward to the eastern end of the village, is called Broadway (1597, 1600, 1717). It is a portion of the Roman road from Dorchester to Speen, of which an account has appeared in this Journal.* It now stops abruptly at the corner of the churchyard; or rather, it turns westward and forms the village street; but its direct course southward reappears shortly afterwards in a lane dividing the southern end of this parish from South Moreton. Near Broadway was Gollingford Bush (1570, 1600, 1717), probably at the ford where the other branch of the Roman road, forking at Brightwell Moor-end towards Streatley, crosses Kibble Ditch (*Gebyll Dyche*, 1529; *Gibble Ditche*, 1571, 1597, 1600) which forms the boundary between North Moreton and Brightwell. The road leading from the western end of the village to the high ground in the north-western part of the parish is called in 1470 "le lawe path,"—the

* The particulars of the Stapleton family and their descendants are taken chiefly from Blomefield's *History of Norfolk*, and those of the Dunche family from Noble's *Memorials of the Protectoral House of Cromwell*.

* XI., 112.

path to the *hlaw* or hill; and it has a bridge. Also a certain way called "le date" occurs in 1474; and we have "le drove waie" in 1568; "le midle way" from 1590 to 1597. "Fulham way" in 1717 and 1768 was a grass track from the village towards Fulscot, now stopped by the railway. In the rising ground are "the Hightland" (1597, 1717); "Doune furlong" (1514, 1597) or "Dun furlong" (1717, 1768); and "Packman's Down" (1717). We have also "Le Coumbe" (1334), or "Combe" (1482, 1564); "Litulcombe" occurring in 1448, and both "Little Coome" and "Great Coome" in 1717. The "Hanging of the Hill," or "Hanging lands" (1717), implies the slopes of the hill, now called the "Hanging of the Coombs." "The small hills" occur frequently; and we have "le smale hill meare" (1600), or "verge" (*wirge*, 1568); probably identical with "small hill barre" (1605), or "barres" (1597) or simply "le barres" (1583); perhaps identical also with "le smale hylbyn" (1514) and "locus vocatus smale hewen" (1525); all of which appear to be in the neighbourhood of Brightwell Moor.

(*To be continued.*)

Notes and Queries

RELATING TO BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON.

Communications are invited upon all subjects of Antiquarian or Architectural interest relating to the three counties. Correspondents are requested to write as plainly as possible, on one side of the paper only, with REPLIES, QUERIES and NOTES on SEPARATE SHEETS, and the name of the writer appended to each communication.

Notes.

"HOBY OF BISHAM."—Under this heading the following occurs amongst "Queries" in the *Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological Journal* for October, 1912, viz.: "There is no record of William Hoby's burial at *Hurley*," and this is most certainly a correct assertion! Later on in the same query—with reference to Anne, second wife of Giles Hoby, it is stated—"She died s.p. 1630, and was buried at *Hurley* beside her husband Giles Hoby, who died 1625;" but, as a fact, neither Giles Hoby nor his wife Anne were buried at *Hurley*, according to our *Hurley Registers*.

Inasmuch as the writer of this query tells us that Sir Philip Hoby (knighted 1544) died s.p. in May, 1558-9, and left Bisham to his brother Thomas, and Merdon to his brother William; and inasmuch as Merdon is close to *Hursley*,

in Hampshire, is not *Hursley* (and not *Hurley*) the place intended in both instances where *Hurley* occurs in this query? Romsey, the place from which the query is made, is not far from Merdon and Hursley.—F. T. WETHERED, Vicar of Hurley, Berks.

BERKSHIRE AND BUCKINGHAMSHIRE AS COMPONENT PARTS OF THE DIOCESE OF OXFORD.—In the account of an Expedition to Sonning and Hambleden, made by the Berks Archæological Society early last September, as given in the *Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological Journal* for October, 1912, it is stated that the County of Berks formed part of the Diocese of Salisbury until 1845, and that by order of Council it was then placed under the care of the Bishop of Oxford. The date, however, of this transference from the one Diocese to the other is incorrect, by nine years. As a fact, Berkshire formed part of the Diocese of Salisbury (Old Sarum) from 1075,—the year in which that Diocese came into existence,—until October 5th, 1836, when it was annexed by order of Council to the See of Oxford, and at once became part of the last named Diocese, under Bishop Bagot. Buckinghamshire was annexed to the See of Oxford by order of Council on July 19th, 1837, but owing to the unwillingness of Bishop Bagot to fall in with this arrangement, Buckinghamshire did not *actually* become a part of the Oxford Diocese until Bishop Samuel Wilberforce had succeeded Bishop Bagot as Bishop of Oxford, at the end of 1845, on the translation of Bishop Bagot to the Bishopric of Bath and Wells. Buckinghamshire had previously formed part of the Diocese of Lincoln.—F. T. WETHERED.

Replies.

HEADSTONES IN CHURCHYARDS.—It is probable that headstones were not used to any great extent in churchyards previous to the time of Charles II. The three oldest I have met with anterior to 1649, all occur in Shrivenham churchyard. They are inscribed :—

I. P.
1628.

R. A. G.
PARSON
DYED THE
LAST OF
JULY ANNO
1628.

ANNO
1647
JOHN
JACOB.

Early headstones, till the 18th century, are all much the same design, and more suitable to their purpose than the great majority of later ones. They are generally low, about 18 inches high, square topped, with inscription in a sunken panel and lettering deeply incised, indeed so much so that they are more legible than many which are a century later.

The subject of Churchyard Inscriptions being opened in the *Journal*, might not an appeal be made for a systematic transcription of all Churchyard Monuments in the County? I am working on the Vale district. It must be apparent that numbers of inscriptions in every churchyard are already obliterated and others rapidly becoming so. Nor is the weather the only enemy of churchyard headstones. In many cases the pathway to the church door is paved with headstones "quarried" from adjoining graves. A case was once brought to the writer's notice of a cottage, whose kitchen floor was of slabs of gravestones.

The inscriptions from the churchyards of Lockinge, Ardington, East and West Hendred, Letcombe Regis, Baulking, Bourton and Shrivenham, have been made by myself.—W. H. HALLAM, Lockinge.

CLOCKMAKERS IN BERKS.—The Rev. F. T. Wethered sends a most interesting reply. He says Peter Godlyman (born at Hurley 1694-5, buried there 1720) carried on the business of a clockmaker in the village, and clocks were marked Peter Godlyman, Hurley. Benjamin Cotton, Hurley, was another clockmaker.

George Nethercot of Fifield, Joseph Kimber of Shaw, William Gunn of Wallingford, are names from grandfather clocks in the possession of Mr. Alfred Pryce of Abingdon. Whitene of Abingdon is on a "Parliament Clock." What is this?—(A. Pryce).

John Lee of Cookham is another clockmaker's name contributed by Mr. E. W. Dormer.

Mr. Pond of Bridge Street, Abingdon, living the middle of 19th century, who died in the Almshouses, was another grandfather clockmaker. Ansell or Austell, a watch and clockmaker, lived at No. 7, The Abbey, Abingdon, early in 19th century.—(Mrs. George). Other replies will be inserted next quarter.

PHIPPS.—John Phipes mar. at St. Lawrence, Reading, 1654. John Phillips of White Waltham, mar. at St. Lawrence, 1656.

GENEALOGY WANTED.—EVATT, Berkshire (Surgeon-General Evatt). Charles Evetts mar. at Beenham 1810. Thomas Eyvot or Eynot mar. St. Lawrence, Reading, 1754.

HERSEY FAMILY.—Information wanted (A. C. Hersey). Nathaniel Hersey had sons, Thomas bapt. at St. Giles, Reading, 1653; William 1656. Moses Hersey mar. 1743 at St. Lawrence's, Reading. Moyses son of Gregory and Elin Hersey bapt. at St. Giles, Reading, 1720.

Proceedings of Societies.

BERKS ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The first meeting of the Winter Session was held on October 31st, when a most interesting paper "English Dress for a Thousand Years," was read by Miss Swann, President of the Oxford Ladies' Brass-rubbing Society.

At the second meeting on November 29th, the Society had the pleasure of hearing a lecture from Mr. Ward, Lecturer at University College, London, on "The Evolution of the Typical French Château and Hôtel of the 16th and 17th centuries out of the 15th century Castle and Town-house." In a later number of the Journal we intend to give a report of these two most instructive papers. Both these lectures were illustrated by lantern slides.

WANTED.—OLD ENGLISH ENCAUSTIC TILES, such as have been dug up on sites of Abbeys and Churches, usually with inlaid patterns in yellow.—CAPTAIN C. LINDSAY, 97, Cadogan Gardens, London.

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